

THE  
MONTHLY EPITOME,  
For JULY 1801.

**LXIII.** *The History and Antiquities of Staffordshire.* Compiled from the Manuscripts of Huntbach, Loxdale, Bishop Lyttelton, and other Collections of Dr. Wilkes, the Rev. T. Feilde, &c. &c.: including Erdeswick's Survey of the County; and the approved Parts of Dr. Plot's Natural History. The whole brought down to the present Time; interspersed with Pedigrees and Anecdotes of Families; Observations on Agriculture, Commerce, Mines, and Manufactories; and illustrated with numerous Plates. By the Rev. STEBBING SHAW, B.D.F.A.S. Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, and Rector of Hartshorn, Derbyshire. Vol. II. Part I. Containing the prefatory Introduction, commencing with a Series of original Letters from Plot's Time to the present; general and natural History, &c.; ancient and modern History of the remaining Parishes in the Hundred of Offlow, and the whole of Seisdon; arranged geographically; with an Appendix of curious Charters, and other Additions and Corrections, &c. Illustrated with Fifty Copper-plates, and a copious Index. Folio. pp. 290. Appendix 20. 3l. Large Paper 4l. 4s. Illuminated Copies,

with Drawings and coloured Prints, 10l. 10s. Nichols and Son, Payne.

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## EXTRACTS.

SUBTERRANEAN FIRE IN THE OLD  
COAL-PITS AT WEDNESBURY (ex-  
tracted from Dr. Wilkes's MSS.)  
—STEAM-ENGINE.

" 1739, MAY 31.—We have long had a wildfire in the old coal-pits in Wenesbury field, where the gob or broken coal takes fire, and burns as long as the air can come to it, but goes out of itself when it comes to the solid wall of coal. This evening, as I rode over part of the field where this fire was burning many acres together, the air being calm, and the weather having been dry for about a fortnight, I saw on the surface of the ground, where the smoke issued out of the earth, as fine flowers of brimstone as could be made by art. They seemed to lie a handful or two in a place, but there was no possibility of going to them."

" This subterranean fire, which is frequent about this town, and commonly called wildfire, breaks out spontaneously amongst the vast heaps of slack or small coal left behind in the coal-works, in which is a great quantity of sulphur, and frequently smokes out through the surface; and, by its great height, it acts upon the several strata above, according to their peculiar natures; some parts are reduced to cinders, others hardened to a very great degree. Clay thus hardened is here called pock-stone, of which the roads about this town are almost entirely composed; and the foundation of the church is laid with the same material. This circumstance is an evident proof that this colliery has been worked for several ages. There is another fire in these mines, which they call a blowing fire; because, when it takes fire, it goes off with a vast explosion, driving every thing before it, even the engine from the mouth of the pit. This is owing to a sulphureous exhalation, which stagnates for want of a proper circulation of air; for, where proper means are made use of for that purpose, no such event is known."

" Dr.

"Dr. Wilkes says he 'had in his possession a piece of old iron, part of a pike or maundrel, which was then found here enclosed in a soft coal; by which it is certain that coal grows or increases, and that the slack or small coal left behind in the pit may possibly in time become as good coal as it was before it was thus broken to pieces.'

"Dr. Wilkes also says, Mr. Thomas Savary (the original inventor of the steam-engine) set one of these engines down about the year 17.. in the liberty of Wednesbury, near a place called then the Broad Waters, which is now dry land again. For, this place being low ground, the water rose so hastily many years ago, and in such quantities from the coal-pit, that it covered some acres of land, buried many stacks of coals that were on the bank, and so continued till drained again about fifteen or twenty years ago. This water was stored with several sorts of fish by Mr. Lane's family, of Bently, which became very large, and remarkably good. The engine thus erected could not be brought to perfection, as the old pond of water was very great, and the springs very many and strong that kept up the body of it; and the steam when too strong tore it all to pieces; so that after much time, labour, and expense, Mr. Savary was forced to give up the undertaking, and the engine was laid aside as useless; so that he may be said to have discovered a power sufficient to drain any kind of mine, but could not form an engine capable of working and making it useful.

"Plot says: 'The last effort that was made in this country for making iron with pit-coal, and also with raw coal, was by Mr. Blewstone, a High German, who built his furnace at Wednesbury, so ingeniously contrived (that only the flame of the coal should come to the ore, with several other conveniences), that many were of opinion he would succeed in it. But experience, that great baffle of speculation, showed it would not be; the sulphureous vitriolic steams that issue from the pyrites, which accompanies pit-coal, ascending with the flame, and poisoning the ore sufficiently to make it render much worse iron than that made with charcoal.'

"These difficulties being at length

overcome, furnaces for making iron with pit-coal are now very numerous in this vicinity; and in this parish are various manufactures in iron, but the principal is that of gun-barrels and locks." P. 85.

#### WOLVERHAMPTON—PROCESSIONING.

"AMONG the local customs which have prevailed here, may be noticed that which was popularly called *Processioning*. Many of the older inhabitants can well remember when the sacrist, resident prebendaries, and members of the choir, assembled at morning prayers on Monday and Tuesday in Rogation week with the charity-children, bearing long poles clothed with all kinds of flowers then in season, and which were afterwards carried through the streets of the town with much solemnity, the clergy, singing-men, and boys, dressed in their sacred vestments, closing the procession, and chanting, in a grave and appropriate melody, the Canticle, Benedicite, omnia opera, &c.

"This ceremony, innocent at least, and not illaudable in itself, was of high antiquity, having probably its origin in the Roman offerings of the Primitiv, from which (after being rendered conformable to our purer worship) it was adopted by the first Christians, and handed down, through a succession of ages, to modern times. The idea was, no doubt, that of returning thanks to God, by whose goodness the face of nature was renovated, and fresh means provided for the sustenance and comfort of his creatures. It was discontinued about 1765.

"Another custom (now likewise discontinued) was the annual procession on the 9th of July (the eve of the great fair) of men in antique armour, preceded by musicians playing the *Fair-tune*, and followed by the steward of the deanry manor, the peace-officers, and many of the principal inhabitants. Tradition says, the ceremony originated at the time when Wolverhampton was a great emporium of wool, and resorted to by merchants of the staple from all parts of England. The necessity of an armed force to keep peace and order during the fair (which is said to have lasted fourteen days, but the charter says only eight) is not improbable. The men (twenty in number) were furnished by the proprietors

of the burgage-houses (one for each burgage), who had likewise, in rotation, the annual appointment of bailiff of the staff, whose office was to pre-  
side over and receive the tolls of the market. To gratify the curious, a list of the burgage-houses, whose proprietors appointed bailiffs from 1581 to 1600, inclusive, might have been here subjoined, but the pressure of other materials forbids it. This custom of walking the fair (as it was called), with the armed procession, &c. was first omitted about the year 1789." P. 165.

EELS—THE BOY OF BILSTON, A  
STRANGE IMPOSTOR.

"DR. Plot\*, speaking of eels as *night-walkers*, says 'they were actually caught in the very fact, near Bilston, creeping over the meadows like so many snakes, from one ditch to another, by Mr. Mosely, who seriously told me, they not only did it for bettering their station, but, as he apprehended, also for catching of snails in April and May, the best time of the year for them.'

"The Doctor gives an account of a strange imposture acted by a boy of this place, viz. William, the son of Thomas Perry, yeoman, about thirteen years of age; who in 1620, not liking to go to school, fell into the company of an old man, called Thomas, that carried glasses at his back about the country; who, in about six times, instructed this apt scholar to groan, pant, mourn, and turn up his eyes, so that the whites only could be seen, turn his neck and head round, gape hideously, grind his teeth, vomit rage and pins, &c. Lastly, this old man advised him to say he was bewitched, and, whenever he heard the 1st verse of the 1st chapter of St. John's Gospel repeated, he should fall into these fits. To which he added, of his own, as occasion required, a wilful abstinence; a trick of rolling up his tongue, and so placing it in his throat, that it appeared hard and swollen; and mixing ink with his urine, to make people believe it came so immediately from him. In the practices of which instructions of the old man, and con-

trivances of his own, he grew in a little time so cunning and expert, that most people (even his own parents) believed him indeed bewitched; of all which he accused one Joan Cock, or Cox, a poor old woman, who was tried for a witch at the assizes at Stafford, August 10, 1620; but the proofs against her being weak and unsatisfactory, she was discharged, and the cure of the boy was committed by the judges, Sir P. Warburton and Sir John Davis, knights, to Dr. Thomas Morton, then bishop of the diocese; who, after a month's observation of his actions and temper at Ecclethall castle, began to suspect him, and at length fully detected the imposture, in the presence of his father and aunt, that came to see him: upon which the boy confessed the whole matter, to his own shame and God's glory, as more fully related in Plot: which gave the Bishop so great satisfaction, that he bound him out apprentice, and he proved a very honest man.

"This story of the boy of Bilston is related in a very different manner by Fuller, who says, that he was practised upon by some Jesuits (that went to Mr. Giffard's house, in this county), to dissemble himself possessed, that the priests might have the credit of casting out the devil, and grace their religion with the reputation of a miracle; but the boy having got an habit of idleness, and his parent's profit, when the priests came to exorcise the devil, he would not go out, and so they raised a spirit they could not lay. But Dr. Moreton, then bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, found it out as above related. If this be true, Dr. Plot was imposed upon with a fabulous story, invented by the Papists to conceal their forgery." P. 171.

BYSHBURY--ANECDOTES OF CAPTAIN  
ROBERTS.

"CAPTAIN Roberts† was a man of strong natural parts, rough manners, and stout person, born on Tower Hill, served on board a man of war against the Dutch in King Charles II. and William's wars; and when Harry Gough (who made his second voyage in 1702, on board his ship the Sarah

\* "Hist. of Staffordshire, p. 243."

† "In the East India Company's service, and governor of St. Helena 1719, died 1737, aged sixty-seven."



Galley) was sent out in 1707 by his uncle Sir Richard, he took him as an officer on board his ship, on account of his experience in naval matters: this formed a connexion between him and the family at Perry Hall, where, on his landing at Chester from the East Indies, he married Captain Harry's sister. Smoking and drinking claret were his principal delight. He was a great reader, and religiously disposed; till his disappointments and obitancy soured his temper, and made him say he believed neither in Mose, Christ, nor Mahomet. He bought in chancery an estate of the Middleton family for a considerable sum, and refusing to make good his bargain, was committed by the court to Newgate; and though the sheriff would have allowed him suitable apartments, he refused to pay for them, and lay in the common rooms, that had been just quitted by the celebrated Sally Salisbury. After submitting to a confinement of some length, the money was paid by Charles Gough, in whose hands alone he would deposit it; yet, upon a difference with his elder brother about the ownership of Charles Gough's ship, he quarrelled with the family; and instead of giving his fortune, as he had promised, to Charles, left it to Captain Raymond, as also a further sum after the death of his wife, who outliving him it came to her brother Charles, whom she made the trustee of her fortune, on marrying her second husband, who remarried the widow of a boatswain, who disappointed him of her fortune." P. 193.

ACCOUNT OF THE GUNPOWDER PLOT CONSPIRATORS (*extracted from the Harl. MSS. and Bp. Lyttleton's MS. in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries*).

"HOLBEACH, an old mansion, formerly belonging to the Littletons, and remarkable in history, 3d of James I. as being the house in which Stephen Littleton (eldest son of George, third son of Sir John Littleton, of Hagley, knighted 8th of Elizabeth), and others, concerned in the gunpowder plot, were taken. Both the Wrights were killed, Catesby and Percy slain with one bullet, Rocket and Winter wounded, and the rest apprehended.

"Sir Edward Coke, in his speech at the trial of the powder conspirators,

says, 'At Holbeach, in Staffordshire, the house of Stephen Lyttleton, after they had been two days in open rebellion, some of the traitors standing by the fireside, and having set two pounds and a half of powder to dry in a platter before the fire, and under-set the said platter with a great linen bag full of other powder, containing some fifteen or sixteen pounds; it so fell out, that, one coming to put wood on the fire, there flew a coal into the platter; by reason whereof, the powder taking fire and blowing up, scorched those who were nearest (as Catesby, Gaunt, and Rookewood), blew up the roof of the house; and the linen bag which was set under the platter, being therewith suddenly carried out through the breach, fell down in the court-yard whole and unfired; which, if it had took fire in the room, would have slain them all.' A more particular account of this is given in a MS. in the Harleian collection, now in the British Museum. The title is, 'A true Declaration of the Flight and Escape of Robert Winter, Esq. and Stephen Littleton, Gent.; the strange Manner of their living in Concealment so long a Time, how they shifted to several Places, and in the End were descried and taken at Hagley, being the House of Mrs. Littleton.' It begins thus: 'The bloody hunting-match at Dunchurch being ordered and appointed by Sir Everard Digby, Knt. for surprising the Princess Elizabeth, whose residence was near that place, Master Catesby wrote unto Master Humphry Littleton, entreating him to meet at Dunchurch, which he complied with; and, on his arrival there, demanding of him the matter in hand, Catesby told him, that it was a matter of weight, and for the special good and benefit of them all; but when the powder plot was disappointed, they scampered about the country; and, coming to Hewel Grange, Lord Windor's house, they carried from thence arms and gunpowder; which, in passing through the river, the carriage being low, was much wetted. Away they passed by Bell Inn, and so over the heath to Holbeach (a house on the high road between Himley and Stourbridge), belonging to Stephen Littleton. There intending to prosecute the mischief begun, and the

the powder being laid abroad to dry, and they very busily employed themselves about it, a servant going by to light a fire in the room, a spark fell among the gunpowder, which blew up part of the house, and so disfigured divers of their faces, as they stood in amazement, perceiving that powder proved a just scourge to them.

"The chiefest among these traitors, as Catesby, Rockwood, Grant, &c. being thus disabled, seeing the house beset with the sheriff's forces, and no means to escape, opened the gate and let them enter, when Catesby and Percy were shot and slain, and Thomas Winter taken alive. Master Stephen Littleton and Robert Winter, in the midst of this hurly burly, escaped out of the house, and fled to one Christopher White, at Rowley-Regis, who was servant to Humphry Littleton; whereby, corrupting the said White with money, they prevailed on him to shelter them in his barn\*, in hopes that, when the search was over, they might depart, and no longer endanger him.

"Here they abode a great while, but with very poor and slender fare. Now, whether the money given by them to White made more appearance of a better condition than before had been discovered in him or his, or whether he being Master Humphry Littleton's man, jealousy might beget an opinion that such men sought for by proclamation†, if not in his house, were yet within his knowledge and protection; one Smart, following the matter effectually, and finding it to be as he surmised, got them from White's barn, and took them into his own charge, hoping to escape with that his close keeping them. Upon White's flight it was conjectured, and the cause thereof known; but no intelligence could yet be had of the parties themselves, albeit one Holyhead, dwelling in Rowley, near to Smart, by preventing him, as he had done White before, got them also to his house,

each man weening not meanly to enrich himself thereby. Their shifting from place to place in this manner, White's flight also considered, and now their security here not altogether clear; much rumour was blazed abroad of their long missing; and, being greatly marvelled at that they were not elsewhere to be heard of, by means of Master Humphry Littleton, as it is likeliest conjectured, they were once again removed from Holyhead's house; and, upon new-year's day last, in the morning very early, they came to one Peck's house, in Hagley, where, knocking at his door, he came forth to them, requesting farther knowledge of them. They said they were his friends, and requested kindness of him. He knowing who they were, and finding them to be very faint and weak, they begged of him some sustenance, and, when they should be able to travel, he should bring them up to London, and have a great reward of the King for taking them, because they were very willing to die, and no longer desired to be in a condition so miserable.

"If these (as himself confessed) were their own words, what need was there then of any colourable cunning in performing more than what themselves required, and he, by revealing them, both to have discharged his duty, and gained no mean recompense besides of his sacred Majesty? but, 30*l.* to himself, and 20*l.* to his man, and 19*l.* to his maid, made them forget their speeches, if any such were used; and, bringing them to a barley-mow in his barn†, a place to be least suspected, and securest for their safety, there were they harboured, and relieved by them severally as occasion served, no eye as yet discerning the least imagination otherwise.

"Now, after that Winter and Littleton had continued for the space of nine days on the barley-mow, one while sustained by Peck himself, then by his man and maid, Master Hum-

\* "In Rymer's *Fœdera*, XVI. p. 638, is a proclamation for apprehending Robert Winter and Stephen Littleton, dated November 2, 1605. Littleton's person is thus described: 'A very tall man, swarth of complexion, of brown-coloured hair, no beard, or little, about thirty years of age'."

† "The house and barn are both standing opposite the blacksmith's shop and pond, in the right road from Hagley to Pedmore, and now, 1760, inhabited by Mr. Hollier." Bishop Lyttelton's MS. p. 12."

phry Littleton (commonly called Red Humphry, because there was another Humphry Littleton besides), taking advantage of his sister-in-law's absence, about eleven o'clock in the night-time conveyed master Robert Winter and Stephen Littleton to Hagley House, not making any one of his counsel but one John Fynes, alias Jobber, the cook, who had been his boy.

"Here you may call to mind the long time of their close confinement in several places, their hard bedding and diet, their want of raiment for shifting, having in all this while neither so much as put off their clothes; and being hourly in fear, they were void of all means otherwise to help themselves. Master Humphry gave them a hearty welcome, assuring them of the cook's faithful service. However, notwithstanding, the next morning he betrayed them to the people of the village, who took them, trying to escape, in the stable-yard. The said John Fynes, or Finwood, cook to Mrs. Lyttelton, had an annuity of forty marks for discovering the above two traitors, Robert Winter, Esq. and Stephen Littleton. Dated Westminster, January 17, 1606.

"But Maister Humphrey Lyttelton escaping from them, he was not long after arrested at Prestwood, from whence he was committed to Stafford gaol, Robert Winter and Stephen Lyttelton being sent up under a sufficient guard to London.

"The harbourers and relievers of these men being also discovered not long after, there was a sessions holden at Wolverhampton, Sir Richard Lewkenor sitting as judge. Holyhead and Smart were indicted and convicted of high treason, and received sentence to be hanged, drawn, and quartered.

"Maister Humphrey Lyttelton, with Peck, and his man and maid, were assigned over for their trial at Worcester, where they also were convicted of high treason, and received the same judgment, excepting the woman, who was sentenced to be burnt.

"Peck and his man had the law inflicted upon them; but Maister Humphry Lyttelton, being at the point of death, appealed for private matters on the King's behalf, which being imparted to Maister Sheriff, and

found to be more important than to be slightly regarded, his life for that time was respited. It is supposed he told the sheriff that Garnet, Aldcorn, and some more of the conspirators, might be apprehended at Mr. Habington's house at Henlip.

"The woman likewise has as yet been spared, and other prisoners expected from London to have their trial in the country. Rumours have daily been spread abroad of these matters, and delivered according to the affections of the reporters; but what is here inserted hath come from such as have been thoroughly acquainted with the business, and have laboured to bring the truth to light.

"This house and estate afterwards belonged to the family of Bendy, of Shutt End; and William Bendy, Esq. left two coheiresses, Margaret, wife of the Rev. Mr. Dolman, and Mary, married to John Hodgetts, Esq. Upon the division of the property, this old house went to Mr. Hodgetts, whose son John Hodgetts, of Prestwood, Esq. left it to his only daughter Eliza Maria, now the Hon. Mrs. Foley, of Prestwood, who sold it a few years since to the present possessor, Mr. Peshall." P. 227.

*LXIV. Hinckley's Translation of Link's Travels in Portugal, &c. (Continued from p. 319.)*

LISBON—BULL-FIGHTS.

"NEAR this theatre (Teatro do Salitre) is the place used for bull-fights. It is moderately large, quadrangular, and surrounded with wooden balustrades and benches. On one side are boxes for persons of rank, and one for the corregedor, who has the superintendence of it: the rest of the seats are divided into two parts, the shady, and the sunny side, the former of which is the dearest, and consists of wretched wooden benches rising in an amphitheatre above each other. I have often been present at this exhibition, but I must confess that the number of persons of rank was very small, and that of unmarried ladies inconsiderable; the place being filled with the middling and lower classes. In summer there were bull-fights almost

most

most every Sunday, from twelve to fifteen beasts being killed in an afternoon. In winter this amusement entirely ceases. A few days before they commence, the managers announce them to the public, by processions on horseback, like the professors of horsemanship in Germany. A short time before the bull-fight, they make various processions in the square, with foldiers in masks, and managed horses who bend their knee and perform other tricks; also, several bulls are previously driven over the place of combat, which they tease and irritate, but without killing them. The bulls intended for the fight are previously enraged and made wild, in a place at the entrance of the square. The points of their horns are guarded with knobs, so that they can seldom do mischief; notwithstanding which, a bull hurt one of the combatants so severely that he died some time after. At the beginning of the combat, a man opens the door so as to stand behind it. Meanwhile the beast rushes forward, and immediately attacks the *torreador* who is on horseback, and has placed himself opposite to the door, but being accustomed to avoiding him according to art, gives him a stab with a lance. In one instance I saw the beast receive it in his neck, and instantly fall down dead. If he misses this blow he must not kill him, but another combatant on horseback, and a great many on foot, irritate the beast on all sides, thus preventing him from pursuing any one in particular. This is a cruel amusement. They stab him with pikes, and hang oblong pieces of wood with sharp iron hooks on his body, and frequently in such numbers that the blood rushes from him like a torrent. There is nothing fine in this exhibition but the rushing forth of the enraged beast, or the pauses he sometimes makes in the middle of the square, where he tears up the earth and roars aloud as in defiance; but nothing is more disgusting than to see a tame and cowardly beast, that can scarcely be provoked to combat. At length the president gives a signal to kill the beast: a *capinho* (so called because his *capa* or cloak is of important use to him) attacks the beast on foot with a drawn

sword, endeavouring to provoke him to combat, as he must not kill him in any other way, and every thrust in the side or behind would be dishonourable. He waves the red cloak before the bull, who rushes at and bends his head down to vent his rage on the cloak, at which moment he receives the fatal blow in the nape of his neck. This however seldom happens the first attempt. Sometimes the *capinho* leaves his cloak behind him. In general the assistants contribute to his security, by throwing handkerchiefs or other things toward the bull, upon which he attacks these and leaves the man\*." P. 218.

#### MONASTERY OF BATALHA.

"WE came to a market-town (villa) called Aljubarota, on the long flat summit of a mountain. It is a pretty large place, but consists entirely of very small houses. Here, in 1386, John I. gained a great victory over the Spaniards, by which he maintained himself on the throne. He was a natural son of Dom Pedro his predecessor; for Dom Fernando the last king having only left a daughter who married the king of Castile, this was sufficient ground for a jealous king of that country to make war with Portugal. It was this battle that, together with that of Campo de Ourique, established the independence of Portugal. Camoens, in the fourth canto of the *Lusiad*, minutely describes this battle in beautiful and truly picturesque language. Nuno Alvarez Pereira distinguished himself in it, having previously engaged the great men of his country to support their new king. In memory of this victory, his Majesty founded the monastery and church *da Batalha*, but at some distance from the field of battle, that it might enjoy a convenient situation and plenty of water.

"The mountains near this monastery are indeed lower, but it is so much concealed between hills that we did not perceive it till we approached very near. The singularly built and open transparent tower strikes the eye, and pleases by its noble proportions.

"Murphy speaks much at large of

\* "When the beast is killed, a horse is brought out with tackle, and drags him off." T.



this church, which is a masterpiece in its kind; and, as he is an architect, I shall not decide after him. No one can deny that, on the whole, a nobler and better taste reigns through the pile, than could be expected in the age when it was built; but the quantity of ornament destroyed this impression, at least in me. Murphy praises it for not being overloaded with ornament; but I cannot conceive how this can be said of a building, where both pillars and arches are covered with carved work. It is true, that on a narrow inspection this is executed in a light and tasty manner, but still it is misplaced. Murphy adds, that the church is built of white marble; but an architect ought at least to know so much of mineralogy, as to perceive that it is not marble, but a calcareous species of sandstone. This kind of stone appears in all parts of the surrounding mountains; while marble is not found for a considerable distance. Besides, the edifice is unfinished. Under the present Queen, who is a great friend to all churches and monasteries, it was in agitation to complete it, but the undertaking was too expensive.

"This monastery is inhabited by Dominicans, and is rather poor than rich. The abbot was a polite friendly man, but wholly destitute of science, and a mere monk. It is surrounded by a small villa, to which Lima assigns six hundred houses; a number which certainly exceeds the truth." *P. 279.*

#### UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA.

"BOTH the students and the tutors wear a long black plain cloak, without sleeves, bound behind with bands, and adorned before from the neck to the foot with two rows of buttons set on very thick. Over this is another long black cloak, with sleeves exactly similar to that of Protestant priests in Germany. Everyone carries a small black cloth bag in his hand, in which are his handkerchief, snuff-box, &c. as their dress has no other pockets. The students always go bareheaded, even in the burning heat of the sun; the tutors and graduates only wearing a black cap. The cloth used being very thin, this black dress must be extremely inconvenient in summer; but neither rank, nor age, nor business can excuse them from wearing it: for whoever is seen in the

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town without it is fined for the first offence, and afterwards imprisoned. Hence the streets are constantly full of men with these black dresses, which gives the town a melancholy and monkish appearance. Pombal wished to abrogate this custom, but it was represented to him that much expense was thereby saved in dress, which indeed here costs a mere trifle. The tutors and students live as with us in private houses, not as in many old universities, and even in England, in one building.

"Various public institutions now occupy the buildings of the ancient college of the Jesuits, which Pombal gave to the university. It is situated like all the other university buildings in the highest part of the town. The museum is inconsiderable, containing but few remarkable specimens, which Vandelli, when he superintended this institution, entirely arranged, even the minerals, according to the Linnæan system. But the collection of philosophical instruments is good and considerable, including many entirely new, especially from England. Those made in Portugal are chiefly of very fine brasil-wood, adorned with gilding, and so arranged, that this collection is one of the most brilliant of its kind. In mechanics it is very rich, but extremely poor in electrical apparatus. The chemical laboratory is also very good, capacious and light, and, besides the objects generally found in such establishments, there is a pneumatic apparatus, and a collection of chemical preparations according to the new nomenclature. This building also contains a collection of chirurgical instruments.

"The public library fills a small church, the interior of which is very little altered; but it is not easy to judge of a library without studying the catalogue. The number of volumes is considerable; and from the description of the professor of botany, Brotero, it seems not to be deficient even in new works. Accordingly it is much visited and used by the students.

"The observatory is well built, in an excellent situation, in the upper part of the town, and is very convenient and neatly arranged. It only wants instruments.

"The botanic garden is not very large, and the greenhouse is small; but

through the industry of its superintendent, the professor of botany Dom Feliz de Avellar Brotero, is excellently regulated. This garden is without comparison more interesting than the royal botanic garden at Lisbon. Beside every plant is a stick bearing its name, as in the garden of Paris, and at first sight the spectator might almost imagine he is viewing its counterpart. Besides many exotics, there is a considerable collection of plants indigenous in Portugal, on which this excellent superintendent has made a number of very important botanical remarks, and no botanist can visit it without instruction.

"In short, the various institutions of the university of Coimbra are far from bad. It far excels the Spanish universities, not excepting that of Salamanca, if I may judge from what I have heard, both in Spain and Portugal, from the best judges. There are indeed very many universities in Germany, which in this respect are far inferior to this their Portuguese sister, whom they despise." *P. 295.*

THE COUNTRY ROUND COIMBRA—  
INEZ DE CASTRO.

"THE country round Coimbra is uncommonly beautiful, and, though mountainous, extremely well cultivated. The mountains are covered with small pine-woods and even German oaks, the vallies watered by brooks, and full of gardens, quintas, neat summer-houses, and even monasteries, and adorned with olive-trees, orange-trees, and the beautiful Portuguese cypresses in abundance. The Mondego winds before the city; and on both sides of it is a narrow and very fruitful vale, which this rapid stream inundates in winter. In the distance on one side are seen the high mountains of Loufão; and on the other the high mountain of Bussaco, whose solitary summit is adorned with a celebrated monastery of Carmelites, and its quinta with high shady cypresses. Those to whom the ascent is not too laborious, will here find the richest variety. Opposite to Coimbra, on the bank of the river, is the *Quinta das lagrimas*, or garden of tears, with a fountain of the same name, which rises at the foot of a hill shaded by fine Portuguese cypresses. Tradition says that Dona Inez de Cas-

tro lived there, and was there murdered. This lady, who was a Castilian by birth, Dom Pedro son and heir apparent to Alphonso IV. loved, and is said to have secretly married at Braganza. He gave her this spot for her residence, frequently visited her, and she bore him three sons and a daughter. The passion of the prince at length transpired; and his enraged father, instigated by his courtiers, came suddenly, while the prince was hunting, from Montemor o velho, not far from Coimbra, where he happened to stop, and caused her to be murdered. When Dom Pedro came to the throne, he gave orders to disinter the object of his passion, and with his own hands placed the crown on her remains. He was very severe toward those who had stimulated his father to commit this murder, and even continued this severity throughout his reign; from which circumstance he was called a justiceiro, signifying, not the just, which is *justo*, but the severe. This appellation was particularly used by the priesthood, who were unfavourable to him. Inez and Dom Pedro showed great taste in the choice of this little spot, where Coimbra with the charming country around displays itself to the eye. In the romantic valley of the Mondego, the quinta of tears forms a spot, over which fancy seems to hover in all her sportiveness; and if poetry has ever sent forth a few sparks of radiance in Portugal, it has been the offspring of this charming vale.

"It is singular that these beautiful materials have never highly succeeded in poetry. Strong endeavours have been made to produce from it a tragedy, to which however the subject is by no means adapted, without considerable alterations; for the whole transaction is confined to the moment, when the beautiful, the tender, and the happy Inez is murdered without the knowledge of the prince. Such a conspiracy against a peaceful woman, living in retirement at a distance from the court, attacked and murdered during the absence of her lover, offers but little opportunity for the intricacy of a plot. There are, however, several Portuguese tragedies of this name, most of them not without some happy, and some laughable passages. La Mothe's Inez is deservedly forgotten; a German tragedy on the same subject, it

may be hoped, will also soon sink into oblivion: the worst of all is an Italian opera, in which Inez is not killed, but the king, on intercession being made, pardons her. Poëfy has seldom produced so miserable a piece." P. 302.

PORTUGUEZE JUSTICE.

"I CANNOT but here relate an incident which happened to us, because it gives an idea of the administration of justice in Portugal. At Thomar the Count of Hoffmannsfegg wished to embark for Lisbon. In this plan I found no attractions, and proposed to accompany a young Spaniard, the Count's secretary, and the servants, by land. But here we met with a difficulty; for we had only one passport, in which the Count and myself were mentioned, together with his suite\*. We therefore went to the corregedor's, but he being absent had intrusted his business to another person, who made no objection, saying the Count might proceed with the portaria; to which he added a declaration why the Count travelled alone, and without attendants, giving us at the same time a passport, in which he stated that he had inspected the portaria, of which he briefly added the contents. With this passport we went to Santarem, where two officers of justice (*escrivães*†) immediately appeared, a class of men who throughout the country justly bear a very bad character, and demanded our passports. They refused the declaration of the corregedor of Thomar, as every foreigner ought to have a pass from the intendant or a secretary of state. Both these men went to and fro, spoke secretly together, then came back to us; and, in short, I observed they wanted some money, which however I feared to give them, lest I should thereby render myself suspected. At length they examined our pockets, and unfortunately found in mine a pointed knife, which being prohibited in Portugal, they threatened me with imprisonment. All this, however, was

not serious; they suffered us to eat our supper in peace, and did not come till ten o'clock to fetch us to the *juiz de fora*. This gentleman, having a large company with him, suffered us to wait a long time in his antichamber, whither he at length came, merely heard the *escrivães*, who said, 'Here are foreigners who have no regular passport,' and laconically replied, 'To prison.' I requested him to read our papers, but he replied, 'My orders are given—to prison.' Thither the young Spaniard and myself were taken, amid the sport of the *escrivães*, but no one troubled himself about our servants and baggage. At first we were put into a decent room; but the *escrivães* spoke a few words softly to the gaoler, who then obliged us to go down some steps into another chamber. This was a shocking place; a horrid stench attacked us, for the privy was situated there; and I soon perceived, with horror, that we were in the same room with criminals. Even now, when I reflect on this wretched moment, I can scarcely restrain my feelings; and it particularly vexed me to be told, that it was contrary to good manners to wear my hat. At length I sent to the gaoler to know if we could have another room by paying for it. This was all that was wanted; and we were now shown into a good room, our servants were permitted to attend us, and the gaoler allowed us to go into his apartment. I was also permitted to send messengers to Thomar and Lisbon.

"At first people seemed disposed to let us remain in prison. Among the prisoners were a number of Spanish merchants, who had remained there several weeks from the same cause as ourselves, and had only been once examined since their first imprisonment. A poor Italian, who was ill, chiefly attracted my pity. He had been brought here because his passport did not agree with the last orders: his money was spent, the poor man was forgotten, and I saw no means of libe-

\* "It was not a mere passport, but a portaria, or order from the Queen, signed by a secretary of state, to all magistrates and officers, to aid us in all things relative to our affairs and researches into natural history, which was particularly specified. Such a portaria is in that country much more comprehensive than a mere passport; and the judges were bound, in case of need, to provide for our lodging and conveyance."

† "Notaries."

ration. A son of a citizen of Santarem said to us, with a dejected countenance, 'You are fortunate, for you know the cause of your imprisonment, which I do not of mine; and I shall, perhaps, be sent for a soldier.'

"Meanwhile we soon procured our liberty. I asked the young Spaniard to draw up a petition in Spanish, as I thought he would express himself better in that language: I then translated it into Portuguese, and asked a notary, who was one of the prisoners, to instruct me in the proper form. With this we applied to the juiz de fora, who referred us to the corregedor, and the latter demanded information of the two escrivaes who had taken us prisoners. The gaoler now came to us, saying that the two escrivaes were very poor, that an unfavourable report from them would at least lengthen the affair, and, making the worst of the pointed knife \*, advised me to give them money. We therefore purchased a favourable report with a couple of cruzaes, upon which the corregedor liberated us; so that we remained only about eighteen hours in prison.

"We had already met with an incident, which may also afford some insight into the administration of justice in this country. We arrived one morning at Cezimbra, where a notary appeared as usual, read the portaria, and took leave of us very politely. Toward evening the Count and myself, on our return from a walk to Calheriz, had separated a little way from the town, the better to examine the country, as we could not here lose our way; but the Count had scarcely entered the town when some officers of justice met him, and demanded his passport. He assured them he had it at the inn, whither they might conduct him and see it; but all he could say availed nothing, and he was taken to prison; where indeed he was placed in a decent apartment, but exposed to the curiosity of a multitude of spectators. Here he was examined even to his shirt, and two pistols being found in his girdle, he was declared a very suspicious person, though the portaria

permitted him to carry all kinds of arms; nor till he was thrown into prison was a message dispatched to me to send the portaria. I did so, not doubting the Count would immediately return; but with the utmost astonishment I heard the answer of the alcalde, that the juiz de fora being absent he could not decide upon this affair. Fortunately we had spoken with the juiz de fora, who was a good kind of man, at Calheriz, whither a servant was sent in the night with the portaria. Meanwhile I was informed, that if the servant did not return next morning, I must also go to prison. He returned at three o'clock, and brought positive orders immediately to liberate the Count; but the officers of justice would not suffer him to go without paying them their fees, which the Count gave them, declaring he despised these men too much to trouble himself any farther about them. The alcalde would also have kept the pistols, till the Count declared that he would immediately send a messenger to Lisbon with an account of the whole transaction.

"These examples show how much precaution is necessary to protect a traveller from Portuguese justice; and that the alcaldes and escrivaes are a class of men among whom are many rogues. They are indeed generally complained of, and the juizes and corregedores are every where accused of great partiality to persons of rank. But I must add, for the honour of the nation, that in both the above instances every one took our part, compassionated us, endeavoured to show us attentions, and loaded the officers of justice with abuse." P. 410.

(To be concluded in our next.)

LXV. *The History of Guildford, the County Town of Surrey.* Containing its ancient and present State, civil and ecclesiastical; collected from public Records, and other Authorities. With some Account of the Country three

\* "I had bought it publicly at St. Ubes; for, though very strictly prohibited, such knives are publicly sold. L.

"In Spain and Italy our English pointed knives are sold; but the purchaser usually breaks off about a sixteenth of an inch at the extremity, in order to be within the limits of the law. T."



Miles round. 8vo. pp. 328.—  
12s. 6d. *Russell*, Guildford; *Long-*  
*man and Rees, Wesley*, London.

*Plate of Tradesmen's Tokens.*

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THE SITUATION OF GUILDFORD,  
&c.

"THE situation of Guildford is, perhaps, the most singular and romantic of any town in England; it is seated in a most healthful air, on the sides of two chalk hills sloping down quick to the river, which runs in a narrow channel between them. The declivity, on which the town stands, joined to the view of the opposite hills, gives it an air of grandeur, whilst the river, whose streams water the lower part of the town, adds to the beauty as well as the advantage of the situation.

"The river is called the Wey, or Wye, one branch of which rises near Alton church, Hants, the other at Frensham great pond, and falls into the Thames at Oatlands. It was made navigable from this town to the Thames at Weybridge in the year 1650, which makes it a place of much trade: the great undertaking of which navigation was first begun by Sir Richard Weston of Sutton, who died with-

in three years after, and left it unfinished. The river being made navigable, large quantities of timber, meal, malt, lime, &c. are conveyed to London by barges of upwards of forty tons burden, which on their return bring coals, and all other heavy articles. The river is well stored with fish, but those chiefly admired are the pikes, eels, and gudgeons." P. 8.

"The manufacture of this place was formerly the clothing trade, by which many considerable estates, as well here, as in other parts of England, have been raised. It has been upon the decline above one hundred and seventy years, at which time it chiefly consisted in making blue cloths for the Canary islands." P. 10.

QUARRY HOLE.

"IN the chalky cliff on which the castle stands, about two hundred yards south-west of that building, is a large cavern, or rather suite of caverns; the entrance is near Quarry Street, facing towards the west, from whence there is a small descent into a cave, about forty-five feet long, twenty wide, and nine or ten high: near the entrance on either hand are two lower passages, nearly closed up by the fragments of fallen chalk; but according to a plan made by Mr. Bunce, a stone-mason, anno 1763, that on the north side stretches towards the north-west seventy-five feet, opening by degrees from two to twelve feet: from this passage on the north-east side run five chambers, or cavities, of different sizes; the least being seventy, and the largest one hundred, feet in length; their breadths are likewise various, but all widen gradually from their entrance; the biggest, before mentioned, from two to twenty-two feet.

"On the south side of the entrance, as observed before, is another passage which opens into a large cave, shaped somewhat like a carpenter's square, or the letter L, the angle pointing due south, its breadth upwards of thirty, and the length of its two sides, taken together, above one hundred and twenty feet: the height of these excavations is not mentioned; neither is there any section annexed to the plan. For what purpose these places could be formed is not easy to guess; if (as  
Mr.

Mr. Grose observes) only for the chalk, the workmen were bad economists of their labour.

"In the beginning of the reign of King William and Queen Mary a report prevailed here, that the Irish were landed in England, and that they massacred all they met without regard to age or sex; this struck such a terror in the inhabitants, that it is said great numbers of women and children hid themselves in these subterraneous caverns.

"A variety of ridiculous stories are told concerning this place, which, according to custom, is by some held to be a subterraneous passage leading to the castle." P. 44.

THE HOSPITAL—ARCHBISHOP  
ABBOT.

"SOME of our modern historians have offered this as a reason for the archbishop's erecting the hospital, viz. *that having accidentally killed a man, he endowed the hospital to atone for it.* But this is utterly false, as well as directly contrary to his principles. The accident happened 1621; and the first stone of the hospital, as appears from the statute-book there, was laid the 6th day of April 1619. Also in the preface to his statutes are these words: 'I George Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury, from the mere mercy of the blessed God (besides the inward graces of his Holy Spirit) having been partaker of some earthly and worldly benefits more than most of my birth and rank have attained unto, I have

'held it agreeable with my duty to leave behind me to posterity some monument of my thankfulness to my Creator, and some testimony of my faith in Jesus Christ, which if it bring not forth some fruit to his glory, is to be held but a dead and unprofitable faith. And therefore my affection leading me to the town of Guildford, where I was born, and where my aged parents lived many years with good report, I have thought upon the erecting of an hospital there, which I have dedicated to the blessed Trinity.' The accident, however (an account of which we shall put in a note), gave the Archbishop a real and heartfelt concern, and brought him into great uneasiness and trouble, which lasted during his life; and, beside a monthly fast, he kept the anniversary of it with great fasting and humility\*.

"We shall conclude our account of the hospital in the words of the late Right Honourable Arthur Onslow: Abbot 'was eminent for piety and a care for the poor, and his hospitality fully answered the injunction King James laid on him, which was, to carry his house nobly, and to live like an archbishop. He had no thoughts of heaping up riches; what he did save was laid out by him in the erecting and endowing an handsome hospital for decayed tradesmen, and the widows of such, in the town of Guildford, under the statutes of which for near one hundred years [1723] that hospital has maintained the best credit of any I know in England.'" P. 91.

\* "On account of his sedentary course of life, the Archbishop was advised by his physicians to take the exercise of riding on horseback. Being on a visit at Lord Zouch's, at Bramzill Park, and riding in July 24, 1621, his Lordship desired the Archbishop to try if he could not hit a deer. His Grace was persuaded, when instantly Peter Hawkins, the keeper, rode swiftly between the Archbishop and the deer, though cautioned and advised by all against it, and at the moment the Archbishop had drawn his cross bow to shoot, he received the arrow into the fleshy part of his left arm, called the *enmontery*, which is a term unknown to the ablest anatomist of these days. Bp. Hacket says, it was but a flesh-wound, and was a slight one; yet being under the care of a heedless surgeon, the man died of it the next day. Rymer says the same day. The behaviour of the Archbishop towards the dying man, was such as might be expected from one of genuine and unaffected piety, administering, while life continued, spiritual consolation. After which, he settled a maintenance on the widow for life. In November 21st of the same year, the Archbishop was declared by the delegates, neither to have incurred any penalty or irregularity, nor to have done any scandal to the church. Rymer's *Fœd.* v. xvii. Hacket's *Life of Williams*. Heylin's *Laud*, Camden's *Annals*, &c. &c."

## SIR ROBERT PARKHURST—HOUND HOUSE.

"SIR Robert Parkhurst was born 1634, at a farm called Gritts or Greet-hurst, in the parish of Shiere.

"The house where Sir Robert was born, is now remaining; it is an antique farm-house, and has continued in the name of Parkhurst till within a few years, lately in the possession of Mr. John Shurlock. It is the tradition, that hounds have been continually kept here, almost coequal with the Conquest, and the house still bears the name of Hound House." P. 119.

## ANTIQUITIES AT THE FRIARY.

"ON the 29th of May 1781, some men ploughing in a field in one of the park farms, near Henley grove, and passing over the summit of an eminence, they observed one of the horses' legs to sink into the ground. On examining the place, they were greatly surprised at discovering an earthen pot fixed in the rock, about two feet below the surface. The top of the pot giving way, was the occasion of its being discovered. The men, in hopes of finding money, and desirous to preserve the pot entire, carefully dug round it, but on examination found it nearly half filled with human bones burnt.

"The height of the earthen vessel, at present, is about seventeen inches; it appears to have been higher before it was broken by the horse. The circumference about four feet four inches in the widest part. It is made of clay, burnt in the manner of coarse earthenware, and about the thickness of a tile. Its colour, a light pale earth, unglazed.

† "Hearts and bowels were not unfrequently, if not generally, lodged separately from their bodies. The heart of Giffard bishop of Winchester, who died 1129, was found not the least decayed, in digging down a wall at the north-west end of Waverley Abbey, in a stone locus, in two leaden dishes, folded together, and filled with spirits, in the hands of [the late] Mr. Martyr of Guildford. *Gough's Sepulchral Monuments*, vol. i. p. lxxii. *Intrad.*

"George Westbrook, clerk [I think], saw this leaden urn, which was dug up at the farm rented by Mr. T. Bicknell."

\* "There are several benefactions in England similar to Mr. How's.—John Blagrave died 1611, and among other charities left ten pounds to be annually distributed in the following manner. On Good Friday, each of the three parishes in Reading send to the town-hall one virtuous maiden who has lived five years with her master; there in the presence of the magistrates, these three maidens throw dice for the ten pounds. The two losers are returned with a fresh one the year following, and again the third year, till each has had three chances."

"Notwithstanding the care observed in separating the pot from the rock, it was accidentally broken. Some marks round the upper swelling, had the appearance of an inscription; but on clearing off the chalk which adhered to it, these appeared as designed for ornament, but rudely executed.

"This earthen pot was sent to Lord Onslow, at West Clandon. A drawing of it, by Mr. Thomas Russell, is inserted with his account of the digging it up, in *Gough's Camden*, p. 149, vol. i.

"At the foot of an ancient yew tree in the park near this farm, was dug up, some years since, a leaden urn, which contained a heart, preserved in spirits. This was generally supposed to be the heart of one of the friars belonging to this friary; the distance about half a mile." P. 142.

## MAIDS MONEY.

"1674, JAN. 27. John How, by will, left 400*l.* The mayor and magistrates of Guildford to choose two poor servant maids, within the said town, of good report, who have served master or mistress two years together. Which said servant maids should throw dice, or cast lots, as the said mayor and magistrates shall think fit: and the maid which throweth most on the said dice at one throw, or to whom the lot falleth, to be paid one year's clear profit of the land to be purchased.—With some restrictions as to the choice of the maid, and the number of times each maid may throw, or cast lots \*." P. 147.

## ALDERMAN SMITH, CALLED DOG SMITH.

"HENRY Smith, Esq. an alderman of London, born at Wandsworth in Surrey, who died in 1627, gave in his lifetime 1000*l.* to several market towns in Surrey, and vested the whole remainder of his estate, which was very considerable, in trustees for charitable purposes, the most of which is disposed of in Surrey\*. Amongst these towns Guildford had 1000*l.* and with that the manor of Poyle, the town mills, &c. were bought, and are now vested in the mayor and approved men, to be distributed and paid by them to and among the poor of Guildford with an even hand." P. 154.

## MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

*Abbreviations out of an old Booke, called the Black Booke.*

"I FINDE a verie auncient booke of this towne, called 'The Black Booke,' written in the tymes of Edward iii, Richard ii, Henry iv, Henry v, Henry vi, Edward iv, Henry vii, sometyms kings of Englande, wherein are written and recorded, the choice of divers officers within the said towne yerelie, with divers accountys of money received for rents, forfeitures, profits of courts, faires, customes, and other things, by the bayliff, halwardens, and other officers of the said towne yerelie collected and paide. And also divers entries of ffynes paid, and auncient customes observed by sundry persons for admittance by a generall consent, into the libertie and freedome of the said towne, which booke is so ragged, torne, and rent one peece from another, yea, almost every leaf one from the other, and so disorderly placed that I could hardly bring them into order agayne. Now for so much of the same as came to my hands (a great many of the leaves of that booke being lacking), I have reduced as nere as I can into their places and collected out of the same, the cheif substance of so much of that which I found there written as coulede well be readd, for

in manie of the leaves of that booke the very words and letters thereof in divers places are worn out by age, and ill keepinge, as may appere to them that shall look into the same. So as I may truelie say it hath fared with that booke, having passed a great number of yeres past from hand to hand, as with a common hackney horse being hired by many and often journeyed, cometh by the negligence or yll usage of some of his riders to a galled backe, or to some incurable disease. (But levinge and delyveringe that old black booke home agayne to the said towne in as good case as I received the same and better) I have briefly collected out of the same the chief matters therein sett downe, which I have summarilie caused to be written in this my booke as an addition to the same, partly to preserve some parte of auncient monuments ready to perish in rotten papers, but chiefflie to shewe that in auncient tyme the books, and records of the said towne were well kept and faire written, and the state and government of the towne (as it seemeth was such in those dayes) and soe discretlie ordered that none were admitted or received into the freedome and libertie of the same, but by a generall consent of the magistrates and governors of that towne, paying such ffynes as then were thought mete, and putting in pledges both for the payment of ther ffynes, and for observinge of other customes, as making a breakfast to the company, and bayting the bull, &c. things in all likelihoode then, very chargeable to them, as may be gathered by the yerelie entries made and recorded of the same amongst other things in that booke. As for ther feastinge and bull-baytinge, they are things worn out of use, and not fit to be revived; but for ffynes paid by fforneyers for there freedome and admittance into the liberties, to buy and sell within the said towne, there hath been a continuall custome and use thereof, although of late yeres much neglected, which I wish may be renewed and brought into use agayn. For the rest of the matters contained in that booke

\* "He is often called *Dog Smith*, from an idle groundless story of his having been a beggar, followed by a dog: His story says he was whipped through one parish in Surrey, and therefore left nothing to that parish. If there needed a confutation of the story, it may be found in this, that there is not one parish in the county which does not partake of his estate."



from the first yere of the reign of King Henry the Sixth forthwardes, I have omitted to make any collections of those latter tymes, because I find from that tyme the booke called the red booke of the said towne to begin and continue yerelie the election of officers, admitting of foreyners by fine and some other things. But ther accompts neglected and the rest not altogether in the same order and manner as it is in the former parts of the said Black Booke yet fairer written and kept so as in both may be seen in a fort the order and manner of government and election of officers within the said towne for above two hundred and threescore yeres saving some difference in the tyme of King Henry the Seventh and fithens by enlarging of ther letters patents in the tyme of that noble king. I have taken this paynes to gather out of that book brieflie that which followeth, That thereby instede of the substance some shadow or resemblance of that old book may remayne for those which shall sueceed. And yett I wold not have that Black Book by this means to be cast away or not regarded appering old and ragged, but rather to accompte of him the more in that he doth proceed from your aunccient predecessors, and afford him that favour to let him have abode amongst you, where he may rest safe-lic. Soe you may make use of him long to produce him to warrant and geve creditt to my reports out of him (if need shall be) in the mean tyme let this my abbreviations out of the same book hereunder written suffice to give you a tast of such of the chief matters conteyned in that book as might well be gathered out of the same.

"GEORGE AUSTEN."

P.\*187.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE BLACK BOOK.

"14 HEN. viii. A constitution made that noe person should sell fresh fish unlesse in open mercate, and not at his own dore, in his house or hostry.

"That noe person shall use the trade of a fuller nor sheerman, within this towne, nor any other hand occupation, unlesse he hath bene apprentice thereto, or by reason of marriage.

"15 HEN. viii. William Bromehall paid 10s. for a fine for his standing in  
VOL. V.—No. XLIX.

the open mercate on the mercate dayes. Tickner of Wonerst the like.

"Constitution, that noe inhabitant shall keep hoggs, unles in his owne ground (except boares), upon payne of 2d. every mercate day, and 1d. every other day: in case any rescue against the officer, the party offending shall pay 20s.

"Repealed 31 Eliz.

"17 Hen. viii. Ordered, that artificers shall keep their mercate here from ten till two of the clock.

"20 Hen. viii. The mayor commandeth in the king's name, That victuals brought to the mercate be good, lawfull, and wholesome. That noe person regrate or forestall the mercates. That noe common poulterer buy any victuals in the mercate before eleaven of the clock. That noe baker buy any corne untill xi of clock. That every man sell by lawfull weights and measures, and that they be assied by the king's standard. That butchers bring the skins of their beasts and sheep to the mercate, and lay the same openly dureing all the mercate. That the bakers make good bread, and of full weight according to the assize. That the brewers make good and wholesome ale, that they sell none till it be tasted by the ale-taster. That he sell a gallon of best ale for 1d $\frac{1}{2}$ , and stale ale for 2d. That the tiplers sell by lawfull measures and sett out their ale signes.

"24 Hen. viii. That noe alehouse keeper shall keep any man's servants att any unlawfull games, upon payne of xijd. for every offence.

"25 Hen. viii. That noe craftsman shall sett up his occupation in this towne, unles he shall take an house, and beare lott and scott, upon payne of xld. And every housholder that up-holdeth such person to pay xld. That noe inhabitant lay any dust or dung in the high street, upon forfeiture of iijd."

P.\*198.

"4 Eliz. This yere the plague was in the towne.

"Mem. Alsoe that in this tyme of the plague the mercate-house was builded, with the clock and dyall, and Mr. Elliott, mayor, indowed the same with a tenement in Wonerst of x. by the yere above all charges, towards the mayntenance and continuance of the sayd clock for ever.

"16 Eliz. A tenement in the parish  
3 B 9f

of St. Nicholas, late Dyer's, fell to the bayliffe of the towne by escheat, upon Dyer's attainer.

"All alehouse-keepers shall have a signe-board painted with a wool-sack, delivered him out of the hall, paying to the hall-wardens ijs. for the same and this signe to be at his dore upon payne of vijs, viij, &c.

"18 Eliz. The last mayor is chosen coroner at the next election.

"22 Eliz. Symon Talley was disfranchised for using himselfe disorderly and contemptuously to the mayor and approved men of the town.

"Arnold Marten, sometime bailiffe, disfranchised for misbehaviour and arrogant speeches to the mayor, &c. and fined vii." P. 201.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION BOOK.

"ANNO 4 Edw. vi. *Memorand.* At this daye was punnyshed, by carting and duckinge, Johan Wryte, the wyfe of George Wryte, of Guldeford, taylor, for hurdome. By her confession.

"*Ibid.* *Memorand.* At this daye was punylished Philemon Peyto, the servant of John Peyto his brother, shomaker, for steling of apples at Merrowe—by oppen stockinge." P. 195.

"*Against Innholders and Vitlers harbouringe of Servants after an Howser.*

"Anno 31 Eliz. Forasmuch as the servantes and apprentices of householders within this towne are of late yeares grown into greate disorder, haunting of alehouses and other places of victualinge within this towne, where they are harbored at unfit tymes, for reformation whereof itt is ordered and agreed at this day, That if any inholder, taverner, alehouse-keeper, or other person or persons whatsoever shall willingly harbor, receive, or suffer any servante or apprentice dwellynge within this towne to continue, remaine, or abide in his or their house or houses att any tyme or tymes . . . after nine of the clock of the nyght, knowinge them to bee servante or apprentices, unlesse it be with the consent of the mr. mistres, or dame of such servante or apprentice, or upon some just or reasonable cause, allowed of by the maior for the time beinge, and three of his brethren, shall forfeit and lose for every such offence ijs. vjd.

to be levied to the use of the hall by the hallwardens for the tyme beeing by way of distresse, in such sorte as americiaments are levied within this towne. Provided alwaies, that if any such servante or apprentice shall be harbored, received, or continewed in any house or houses as aforesaid without the knowledge of the housholder, the saide penalty to bee levied of such servante or servants of the same house that shall willingly receive or keepe such servante or apprentice there; and then the housholder where such offence or faulte shall bee made to bee discharged of the same penalty any thinge above written notwithstanding to the contrary. And the said servantes and apprentice so found or known to bee out of the house or houses of their mr. mistres, or dame, after nyne of the clock to bee punished as followeth, viz. the servante or jormymen by imprisonmente of their bodyes. And the apprentices to be whipped either by their mr. mistris, or dame, or else by some other thereunto appointed by the maior for the tyme beeing."—P. 199.

"Anno ix Jac. i. Twenty-one persons fined—tiplers. They be inholders, tiplers, and alehouse-keepers, and sell beere and ale by stone potts, cuppes, canns, and dishes, And other measures not . . ., taking excessive gaine contrary to the statute, and for suffering unlawfull gaines, &c.

"*Ibid.* Two persons fined. Horsmills. Because either of them each a common horsmill, grinding mault, and taking excessive toll.

"*Ibid.* Seven persons fined. Budgers. Because they be budgers and common buyers and sellers of wheate, barley, and maulte, takinge excessive gaine, &c.

"*Ibid.* Eleven persons fined. Brewers. Because they be common brewers of ale and bere to sell, And not keepinge the assize, &c.

"*Ibid.* John Hardinge, Henry Horner, Richard Stevens, John Weston, Barbers, fined, because they do cast there water and haire into the high strete to the annoyance to the kyngis people &c.

"*Ibid.* Fifteen Bakers fined for having broken the assize of bread.

"*Ibid.* Seven persons, for keeping common Osteries, selling hay, and oats, at excessive prices, contrary to the statute &c.

"*Ibid.*

"*Ibid.* Tymothie Chapman fined ijs. because he is presented to be a common Drunkard and haunter of innes and alehouses, to the evill example of the king's people, &c.

"*Ibid.* William Figge and Richard Browne, constables of the towne of Guldeford, for neglecting to execute the statute made for the punishment of rogues and vagabonds and fined each ijs.

"*Ibid.* George Burges, shomaker, for kepinge continuall disorder in his house in the night tyme to the trouble and disturbance of his neighbours, and for kepinge a woman servant in his house suspected of lewed and evill behavior, &c. fined xijd.

"*Ibid.* Five persons to pay ijs. for signe posts and standers. Because they have signe posts and standers standing and hanging on and uppon the high streete.

"*Ibid.* Three persons, Vintners. Because they sell wyne at excessive price, contrary to the statute, and severall tymes corrupt. And also taking excessive gains, &c. To pay, one 5s. two others 2s. each.

"*Ibid.* Seven Shoemakers, because they do sell shoes not well made and makinge mixture of leather in shoes and botes contrary to the statute, takinge excessive gaine; two paid viijd.; two other iiijd.; three other ijd.

"*Ibid.* Eight Fythers all y<sup>e</sup> years, because they sell false fishe, forreigne and other sortes of fish as well in the tyme of Lent, as at other tymes not wholesome for mens bodyes, &c. annoyinge the highe-streete by pouringe water, to pay xvijid. &c.

"*Ibid.* Nine Cookes to pay xvijid. &c. because they use cookery in their houses, dressinge all manner of flesh and fish, and takinge excessive gaines, and sometymes that which they knowe to be unwholesome for men, &c. and fleshe in Lente.

"*Ibid.* Five butchers to pay iiijd. &c. because they be common butchers and sell bull beef not bayted, and other flesh not holsome for men, &c.

"*Ibid.* Eighteen wollon drapers to pay ijd. &c. for sellinge false wollen cloth, false coulours, and takinge excessive gain.

"*Ibid.* Seven mercers fined, for sellinge lynnyn cloth, &c. at excessive prices.

"*Ibid.* Five Loaders fined, because

they frequent loades and drive horses loadinge to and fro the mills to the common annoyance of, &c.

"*Anno x Car. i.* Six persons to pay vid. each. Fishers. Because they annoy the streete by casting of fish water, and sufferinge their boardes to stand in the streete, to the great annoyance of the king's people.

"*Ibid.* Three Barbers, viz. Henry Horner, Roger Lewis, and Moses Jennings, to pay iiijd. because they caste haire and water into the high streete, to the greate annoyance of the kinge's subjects.

"*Ibid.* Five Millers to pay . for carryinge and recarryinge of grist thro' the towne to the greate hurt and damage of the paved streete.

"*Ibid.* Henry Wheeler for his house beinge on fire, to the greate danger of his neighbours, to pay 3s. 4d. John Killinghall for the like, 3s. 4d.

"*Anno xiv Car. i.* Five Millers fined 2s. 6d. for carryinge and recarryinge of grist thro' the towne to the greate hurt and damage of the paved street.

"*Ibid.* Abraham Saunds for laying of strawe in his house dangerous for fier. Fined vjs. iiijd.

"*Anno xxii Jac. i.* A Brazier made free, there being a want of that trade, His name John Killinghall, Holy Trinitie. The towne not well furnished and supplied with pewter, brasse, &c.

#### Disfranchisements.

"*Anno x Jac. i.* Henry Smith, one of the corporation for his contempte and disorder'd behaviour towards the mayor and approved men of this towne, dismissed and disfranchised.

"*Anno xvi Car. 2. 1664.* John Mills, malster, for saying that Mr. Canfield, one of the magistrates was a lying knave, and that neither Mr. Mayor nor he the said Mr. C. and the rest of the company should father their lyes upon him. Suspended from the office of bailiff.

"*Anno 6 Jac. i.* Thomas Tompson, the elder, one of the corporation of Guildford for keeping an alehouse, disfranchised.

#### A Constable put out of his Office for Misdemeanour.

"*Anno xi Jac. i.* Hugo Loart unconstabular. valde fuit ebriet. temp. nocturno [Decembris] Et qd. pmisit quendam Jacobum Mabanck ipm Hugonem

gonem imprisonar. in le stockes eusdem  
ville ad mal. exemplu . . . dni  
regis, &c." P. 207.

**LXVI. *Lives of Scottish Authors, viz.***

Ferguson, Falconer, and Russell.  
By DAVID IRVING, A.M. Small  
8vo. pp. 129. (With a Portrait  
of Dr. Russell.) 3s. 6d. *Constable*,  
Edinburgh.

**EXTRACTS FROM THE LIFE OF  
ROBERT FERGUSSON.**

"**R**OBERT Fergusson was born at Edinburgh on the 5th of September 1750. His father, William Fergusson, who in his youth had discovered some propensity to the study of poetry, maintained a respectable character in the humble station in which he found himself placed. He served an apprenticeship to a tradesman in Aberdeen, and about the year 1746 came to Edinburgh, in order to solicit employment. Having been engaged as a clerk by several different masters, and these too of various occupations, he at length procured the office of an accountant in the British Linen Hall, in which he continued till the time of his death.

"Young Fergusson was of a constitution so extremely delicate, that he was incapable of attending the school till after he had reached the sixth year of his age. He was then sent to a Mr. Philps, who at that time resided in Blackfriars Wynd; and under his tuition was qualified for attending the high school in the space of little more than six months. While he continued at this excellent seminary, the infirm state of his health prevented him from giving the proper attendance: yet by means of his superior capacity, aided by a generous spirit of emulation, he excelled most of his companions. It was during these intervals, in which the delicacy of his frame confined him at home, that he first discovered a relish for books. He gratified his taste by the eager perusal of such works as chance threw in his way: and his interrogations concerning any subject which attracted his attention, often puzzled those much older than himself." P. 3.

"During his residence at St. Andrew's, Fergusson began to turn his attention to the study of poetry, and wrote several copies of verses, which attracted the

particular notice of the professors, as well as that of his fellow-students. Here he also formed the plan of a tragedy on the story of Sir William Wallace; of which, when he had finished the two first acts, he relinquished the design; because, as we are told, he had seen another dramatic poem on the same subject, and was apprehensive lest his should be regarded as a mere copy. This seems a very inadequate reason; authors who write on the same subject are not under the necessity of stealing from each other.

"Whether any particular era of the life of this renowned warrior may afford matter for a regular tragedy, appears somewhat doubtful. His life was glorious and eventful; but it presents few dramatic incidents which could be rendered interesting by any writer whose genius does not bear a resemblance to that of Shakespeare." P. 6.

"Though he was never very remarkable for his application to study, yet he performed with a sufficient share of applause, the various exercises which the rules of his college prescribed. The calm and even tenour, however, of an academic life was but ill calculated to afford him much satisfaction or enjoyment. His natural propensity to mirth and gaiety often caused him to relax in his exertions. He bore a principal part in a thousand youthful frolics; many of which are still remembered at St. Andrew's.

"What amused himself tended to disturb the quiet of others. His misdemeanors were either so frequent, or of such a kind, that, after a residence of four years, he exposed himself to the disgrace of a formal expulsion from the university. The eloquence of Dr. Wilkie was powerfully exerted in his behalf, but without producing the desired effect: the other members of the *Senatus Academicus* were by no means disposed to listen to his arguments; and the imprudent youth was accordingly dismissed." P. 8.

"About two years before his return from college, his father died, leaving his family in a state of poverty and dejection. He now found himself without any present employment, and without any fixed resolution concerning his future pursuits; a situation dangerous beyond all others to a young man of a fervid imagination.

"Some



"Some of his friends advised him to devote himself to the study of medicine; but he declined following this advice, because, according to his own account, he fancied himself afflicted with every disease of which he read the description. A similar anecdote is related of John Bois, one of the translators of the Bible in the reign of King James VI.

"He had a maternal uncle living near Aberdeen, a Mr. John Forbes, who was in pretty affluent circumstances. To him he paid a visit, in hopes of procuring some suitable employment through his influence. Mr. Forbes at first treated him with civility; but, instead of exerting himself to promote his interest, suffered him to remain six months in his house, and afterwards dismissed him in a manner which reflects very little honour on his memory. His clothes were beginning to assume a threadbare appearance; and on this account he was deemed an improper guest for his uncle's house. Filled with indignation at the unworthy treatment which he had received, he retired to a little solitary inn that stood at a small distance; and having procured pen, ink, and paper, wrote a letter to his unfeeling relation, couched in terms of manly resentment. After his departure, Mr. Forbes seems to have relented: he dispatched a messenger to him with a few shillings to bear his expenses on the road. This paltry present the lowness of his funds compelled him to accept. He set out for Edinburgh on foot, and with much difficulty reached his mother's house. The fatigues of the journey, added to the depression of his mind, produced such an effect upon his delicate constitution, that for several days he was afflicted with a severe illness. When he began to recover strength, he endeavoured to console his grief by composing a poem on the *Decay of Friendship*, and another *Against Repining at Fortune*." P. 9.

"In 1774, his friends prevailed upon him to compose an elegiac poem on the death of Mr. Cunningham, who as a pastoral poet has obtained considerable celebrity. It was published for the benefit of the unfortunate author, who was then verging towards that state of insanity in which he at length closed his miserable existence. As he was then incapable of superintending the press,

some of his friends kindly undertook that office.

"This was the last of his productions. His body being now emaciated with disease, and his mind totally unhinged, his relations began to observe in his behaviour something of an infantine cast: he talked in an incoherent manner, and frequently manifested an entire vacillation of thought.

"Of persons in his condition some leading object generally engrosses the attention, to the almost total exclusion of every other: the power of judgment is superseded, and that of imagination usurps its place. Religion presented itself to Fergusson; and this he made the constant theme of his discourse. Between his case and that of Collins, as well as of Smart, a very evident distinction obtains. He was approaching towards the last stage of mania; whereas they were only visited with 'that depression of mind which enchains the faculties, without destroying them, and leaves reason the knowledge of 'right, without the power of pursuing it'." P. 23.

"He died on the 16th of October 1774, after having continued about two months in Bedlam. Such was the life, and such the lamentable death of Robert Fergusson, a youth whom nature had rendered capable of nobler exertions; a youth whose misfortunes cannot fail to command our pity, though his misconduct may expose him to our censure." P. 30.

"His reputation rests almost solely upon the merit of his Scottish compositions. He is to be ranked, not with Pennecuik and other writers of the same class, but with Ramsay, Ross, Burns, and Macneill. Though his mind was less comprehensive than that of Burns, and though he is in some measure a stranger to the delicacy and sensibility which characterize the beautiful productions of Macneill, yet in all the essential qualities which constitute a poet, he is equal if not superior to Ramsay and Ross.

"The popularity of his Scottish poems is a strong proof of their intrinsic merit. In that part of the island where their beauties can be properly understood and relished, few productions of a similar description have been so universally admired. They are read by people of every denomination; and their native charms are such, that they cannot

cannot be read without delight. They exhibit a sprightfulness of thought and facility of expression which has seldom or never been surpassed. The versification is so easy and natural, that it seems to flow spontaneously, and without any kind of effort in the poet. It is always smooth, and on some occasions highly melodious. In *Hame Content*, in particular, the cadence of the verse cannot fail to delight the ear. Though his subjects are frequently trivial, yet he never becomes flat or insipid: every thing that occurs is lively and entertaining. To those who affirm that his sentiments are seldom natural, the term *nature* certainly cannot be supposed to convey the same signification as it does to the rest of mankind. If nature preside not here, where shall she be found?" P. 46.

"In the Scottish pieces of Fergusson the dialect peculiar to the inhabitants of Edinburgh and its immediate environs chiefly prevails. His phraseology differs from that of Ramsay, who intermingles the idiom of the metropolis and of his native province.

"Of his serious compositions several possess distinguished merit. The odes, addressed to the bee, and to the *gowd-spink*, are no contemptible specimens of Scottish lyric poetry. They contain a due mixture of picturesque description and well-turned moral reflection; and the versification often possesses much suavity." P. 48.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE LIFE OF FALCONER.

"WILLIAM Falconer was born at Edinburgh, about the year 1735. His father, after having for many years followed the occupation of a barber and wig-maker in the Netherbow, was unfortunately reduced to a state of insolvency. The contributions of his friends afterwards enabled him to open a grocer's shop: but he was either a man of mean capacity or of an indolent disposition; for upon his being de-

prived, by the death of his wife, of a prudent and active coadjutor, his affairs were again deranged. The greater part of his life seems to have been spent in extreme indigence.

"His son was educated at the private school of Mr. Webster, a teacher of little reputation. The period of his attendance and the extent of his progress cannot now be ascertained; but from the poverty of his parents, we may safely conclude, that he was soon released from the restraint of scholastic discipline." P. 66.

"At an early period of life, the misfortunes of his family compelled him to abandon his native country, and to enter himself as a sailor in the royal navy. While he continued in this station he is said to have attracted the notice of Mr. Campbell, the author of *Lexiphanes*, who was purser of the ship to which he belonged. It is farther stated, that Campbell entertained him as his servant, and delighted in communicating to him what knowledge he himself possessed\*.

"The profession which powerful necessity had led him to embrace, was by no means congenial to his temper of mind. Of his own severe destiny he speaks in a very interesting manner:

- 'While yet the stripling, oft with fond alarms
- 'His bosom danc'd to Nature's boundless charms;
- 'On him fair Science dawn'd in happier hour,
- 'Awakening into bloom, young Fancy's flower;
- 'But frowning Fortune, with untimely blast,
- 'The blossom wither'd, and the dawn o'ercaст.
- 'Forlorn of heart, and by severe decree
- 'Condemn'd reluctant to the faithless sea,
- 'With long farewell he left the laurel grove,
- 'Where Science and the tuneful sisters rove.'

\* "Currie's Burns, vol. ii. p. 289.—Dr. Currie received this information from a surgeon of a man of war, who was personally acquainted with both Falconer and Campbell. It must not, however, be implicitly received. What the same gentleman communicated respecting Falconer's birth, and the place of his nativity, is altogether erroneous. This palpable inaccuracy will incline us to view the whole account with a suspicious eye. Yet Dr. Currie is by no means to be charged with precipitate credulity: the surgeon, whose authority he quotes, undoubtedly related the anecdotes in a manner which left no room to suspect the authenticity of his information."

"Though

"Though this boisterous profession may in too many instances tend to blunt the softer feelings of humanity, yet it cannot be supposed to effect a complete assimilation of character in those by whom it is exercised. The poetical mind of Falconer, it is to be presumed, was untainted by the surrounding contagion. The constancy of intellectual exertion might preserve his faculties in a state of uninterrupted salubrity; as the sea is prevented, by its perpetual motion, from falling into putrefescency and stagnation.

"Upon revisiting Edinburg in the year 1751, he published a poem 'Sacred to the Memory of his Royal Highness Frederic Prince of Wales.'

"In the eighteenth year of his age we find him wandering about the port of Alexandria. Here he was engaged as second mate of the Britannia, a merchantman, bound for Venice. While they proceeded on their voyage, a dreadful storm arose; and at length the vessel struck upon a rock near Cape Colonna on the coast of Greece. Of the ship's company, Falconer and other two were the only individuals who had the good fortune to reach the shore.

"This melancholy event forms the subject of his celebrated poem entitled 'The Shipwreck;' which was published in 1762, and dedicated to Edward Duke of York, one of the brothers of his present Majesty.

"The hands which had been employed in adjusting the braces of a ship, were not found unskilful in the management of the golden plectrum. His native genius rose superior to the untoward circumstances incident to his station; and the poem was immediately regarded as a production of singular merit. Such an unprecedented union of poetical ingenuity with nautical science, could not possibly meet with a cold reception." P. 67.

"In 1769, he published the 'Marine Dictionary,' a work of the utmost utility to the students of naval tactics. His chequered life was now advancing towards a close. In the course of the same year, the restless spirit of adventure impelled him to embark on board the Aurora, with a view of settling in the East Indies. She arrived at the Cape of Good Hope in the month of December, and, after a short interval, again proceeded on her voyage, but never reached the desired

port. The vessel, together with its ill-fated crew, is supposed to have perished by fire or storm." P. 73.

# LXVII. Elements of civil Knowledge.

By HENRY REDHEAD YORKE, Esq. 8vo. pp. 335. 9s. Printed for the Author, by Lockett, Dorchester.

## CONTENTS.

CHAP. I. On early Instruction.—

II. On the best Mode of Education.—III. The same Subject continued.—On the Study of the Latin and Greek Languages.—IV. Of the Education of the middling Classes of the Community.—Plan of a public elementary School—the under Academy.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE PREFACE.

"MANY books have been published on the subject of education, many vices have been justly ascribed to its defects, many schemes of a more perfect system have been suggested; but I have never met with any one which may be strictly said to combine practice with theory, and to accommodate itself fully to the occasions of the people. Most of their works, excellent in themselves, propose what should be in future. The object of the present treatise is not only to show what is to be done now, but how it is to be done." P. iii.

"Numberless complaints are often made by persons who are engaged in the pursuits of life, that they are in want of a method of occupying and improving their minds. By paying proper attention to the subjects treated of in this volume, and by referring to the authors who are mentioned under the various departments of science, they will find no difficulty in making a rapid progress in this sort of self-education. It is not the quantity but the quality of the authors whom we read, that must determine our certainty of improvement in genuine knowledge. The younger Pliny, in b. vii. lett. 9. says, 'You will remember that the most approved writers of each sort are to be carefully chosen; for, as it has been well observed, though we should

• should read much, we should not  
• read many books.' Lord Shaftesbury,  
in his *Characteristicks*, v. i. 142. says,  
• It is improper to call a man well  
• read, who reads many authors. since  
• he must of necessity have more ill mo-  
• dels than good; and be more stuffed  
• with bombast, ill fancy, and wry  
• thought, than filled with solid sense  
• and just imagination.'

"Sir W. Temple, in his *Essay on Learning*, observes, 'that it lessens the  
• force and growth of a man's genius,  
• and doubts whether the weight and  
• number of so many other men's  
• thoughts and notions, may not sup-  
• press his own, or hinder the motion  
• or agitation of them, from which  
• all invention arises; as heaping on  
• wood, or too many sticks, or too  
• close together, suppresses, and some-  
• times quite extinguishes a little spark,  
• that would otherwise have grown up  
• to a noble flame.'

"It has been thought advisable to  
postpone the publication of the cata-  
logue of books referred to in page 267,  
until the publication of the second vo-  
lume, which, with the present, will  
embrace all those parts of knowledge  
that are called elementary.

"The present work is not written  
for the learned; but exclusively for  
that large portion of the community,  
who have been too much neglected by  
learned writers. It is on this account  
that authorities have been less quoted,  
and the ostentation of reading many  
books avoided. Public utility has been  
my sole object; and if thinking men  
will have the courage to pursue such  
measures as have been recommended  
in this treatise, I will venture to pro-  
gnosticate that a great advancement  
will be made in the cause of truth,  
virtue, and freedom." P. iv.

#### EXTRACTS.

##### ON THE BEST MODE OF EDUCATION.

"MANY ages have elapsed since a  
controversy began on the most effica-  
cious mode of instructing youth; some  
preferring a public, and others a pri-  
vate education. The question is not  
yet determined; nor is it likely to be  
determined, until, by repeated and con-  
vincing experiments, men become dis-  
posed to abandon their old habits, and  
to adopt a more expeditious and more  
useful course of learning. Until that

event takes place, there can be no im-  
propriety in suggesting methods, which,  
if they cannot perfect the system of in-  
struction, may at least have a tendency  
to improve it. To effect this rational  
purpose, it will not be necessary to  
alter the course of knowledge, but  
only to abridge the means employed  
for its acquisition. For what is educa-  
tion? Education and instruction, says  
Hooker, are the means, the one by  
use, the other by precept, to make  
our natural faculty of reason both the  
better, and the sooner to judge rightly  
between truth and error, good and  
evil. By preserving this accurate defi-  
nition clearly and distinctly in our  
minds, we shall soon discover at what  
stage of life all elementary studies  
should cease. The moment when it  
should commence, reason sufficiently  
indicates. At our entrance into the  
world, we are helpless and ignorant;  
and the mind, like blank paper, is ca-  
pable of receiving any impressions  
which may be made upon it. This  
then is the point where we ought to  
begin, nor should we desist until the  
mind is competent to form its judg-  
ments without the direction of the pa-  
rent or tutor. As education is merely  
the instrument of facilitating our at-  
tainment of this capacity, it should be  
laid aside as soon as the object is at-  
tained. This is the point where it  
should end; but no determinate period  
can be assigned for its accomplishment,  
because it must vary according to the  
genius, application, and health of the  
pupil. The law of England has fixed  
the age of manhood at twenty-one.  
It very properly makes no allowance  
for any extraordinary exceptions that  
may arise, because in the formation of  
every law, or general rule, it is impos-  
sible for the legislator to foresee the  
particular cases that may spring forth  
to defeat the end of that law. Com-  
mon utility is always preferred to in-  
dividual advantage. But, notwithstanding  
the propriety of the general rule, it  
must be admitted that there are many  
bright geniuses, which have acquired  
more real knowledge at sixteen, than  
others at twenty-six; and this chiefly  
arises from their minds having been  
early directed to the acquisition of the  
real, substantial knowledge of things."

P. 46.

"The infancy of an human being  
and of societies bear an exact resem-  
blance



blance to each other; and the rapid progress of the individual from a state of total ignorance to a state of knowledge, is a correct miniature of the rise and progress of social institutions. The latter, indeed, has required a long revolution of ages to bring them to any degree of maturity; whereas the former is very often the work of a single life. The cause of this difference it will not be difficult to explain. A child finds all the artificial discoveries of society ready at his hands; they appear to him like so many originals, as ancient as nature itself. His only object therefore is, to have their several properties unfolded, without inquiring who was the inventor, or when the thing under contemplation was invented. But this is not applicable strictly to societies in their early condition; for every new discovery is the result of necessity, and the mind being intent only on the means of self-preservation, is little disposed to range into the unexplored regions of science. To provide for his immediate wants, constitutes the whole philosophy of the savage; the investigation of the phenomena of nature, and the philosophy of mind, are left to times posterior to the first organization of communities; when men enjoy in security the advantages of order, leisure, and civilization. Ignorance and wonder are the attributes of the unlettered barbarian; doubt and investigation, of the enlightened citizen.

"These observations are not advanced for the purpose of depreciating the value which the generality of men affix to such acquirements. On the contrary, the elegant and frivolous trifles which are so apt to please the vanity of the indulgent parent, having, by the scandalous negligence of mankind, become incorporated in the system of education, ought to be attended to, because, from this circumstance, the world attaches to them a greater degree of importance than they would otherwise deserve. All that can be attempted in this age of dissipated manners, is, to implore those who are concerned in the guardianship of youth, not to appreciate too highly such pursuits, nor to permit them to swallow up the more useful occupations of the mind. For after all that can be said in their favour, it is universally acknowledged, even in the circles of levity and fashion,

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that a man of knowledge and virtue is a more reputable character than the agreeable piper, the correct fiddler, the pretty dancer, or the merry coxcomb. The attractions of the latter are momentary, but the impressions which the former leave on the mind are deep and lasting; his name is never mentioned without respect, nor his character noticed without reverence and esteem. The philosopher, therefore, who is not too nice and censorious in his observations on human affairs, will not openly avow himself hostile to such propensities, as long as they do not tend directly to vitiate the understanding, or to corrupt the heart. The character of a Timon or a Diogenes, described by the pen of history, may serve at this distance of time to entertain our minds; but if we look deeper into their dispositions, we shall find no epithet so proper for them as that of ill-natured madmen." P. 49.

"The progress of human sciences has been retarded solely because men have neither been sufficiently acquainted with the capacity of their minds, nor have felt with sufficient force the necessity of exercising them. Consequently, if, in a system of education, we would make use of the only method to which we are indebted for all that we have hitherto acquired, we must at first enable a child to comprehend the faculties of his mind, and make him sensible of the necessity of exerting them. If we succeed in both, every successive undertaking will become easy; for, instead of imagining as many principles and methods as are distinguished in the arts and sciences, we should have nothing more to do than to observe with him. This is not a plan of very difficult operation. For if the faculties of the understanding be the same in a child as in a man, why should he be deemed incapable of observing them? It is true, that they have been exercised on a less number of objects; but at least it must be granted that they have been exercised, and often with success. Why then can he not be made to notice what passes within himself, when he has already formed judgments and reasonings, when he has had desires, and contracted habits? Why can we not induce him to remark the occasions in which he has rightly managed them, or those in which they have been mismanaged,

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and instruct him, from his own experience, to manage them in future more advantageously? When he has made these primary observations, he will exercise his faculties with better judgment; and henceforward he will be more desirous to employ them, until by frequent essays the habit of exercising them will be insensibly acquired. From the moment that a child begins to comprehend the use that is to be derived from the employment of the faculties of his mind, he will require nothing further than a proper direction to enable him to seize the thread of the sciences, to follow them in their progress from first to last, and to learn in a few years what has cost mankind a long revolution of ages to acquire. It will suffice that he make observations, when he is capable; and when he cannot observe by his own exertions, it will be enough to give the history of observations which have been made. This method possesses besides many advantages. It removes from our studies a multitude of superfluous objects, which detain without instructing us in our progress; and rejects those empty sciences which consist principally in words or vague notions, and which are called primary or elementary sciences, as if it were necessary to lose time in learning nothing, in order to prepare ourselves for studying one day or other to some advantage. It averts those disgusts which a child cannot avoid experiencing, when in the commencement of his studies obstacles are opposed to him which he cannot surmount, and doomed to store his memory with words that he does not understand, he is punished for not retaining what he never comprehended, or for not having learnt what he never felt the necessity of learning. On the contrary, it enlightens with facility, because from the first lesson it leads him from what he knows to what he was ignorant of; it excites his curiosity, as he judges from the knowledge he has already gained, of the facility of obtaining more; and his vanity, flattered by his first progress, renders him anxious still to acquire. It instructs him almost without any exertion on his part; because, instead of making a parade of principles, it reduces the sciences to the history of observations, of experiments and discoveries. And lastly, as it never varies, and as it is

the same in each study, it becomes more familiar to him every day: the more he becomes informed, the more facility he acquires in informing himself; and if the period of his education has been too short, he may, a one and without assistance, acquire every sort of knowledge that has not been submitted to him before." P. 70.

"In this syllabus of education, it is proposed to assist the human mind in unfolding its powers in that order which nature and experience authorize. A child is led from absolute ignorance to knowledge, and from one species of knowledge to another in a regular connected chain of acquirements, until he has attained all the elements which his future destination in life requires. To instruct him further than in the elements of knowledge is not the province of education. All that it can and will perform is to furnish him with such assistances, that, whatever department of science he may afterwards select for his future occupation, he may be enabled to undertake it without the aid of a preceptor. Men are not intended to be in leading-strings all the days of their lives. The time will arrive, when, disengaged from the advice of the tutor, and the admonitions of the parent, a youth must plunge into the bustle of the world, and confide entirely to the principles which he has imbibed during the term of his education. Then it will soon appear, whether the plans of his education have been well chosen, and whether his future progress will do credit to the care that has been exhausted upon him during his infancy.

"When we consider that all our future hopes respecting a child, rest solely on early care, and that the man will be exactly what the child was in miniature, we shall never regret any labour or expense that we may devote to his instruction. When a young man quits the house of his father, he is instantaneously environed with a multitude of dangers and fascinating attractions. He ought therefore to be duly fortified, not only against vice and seduction, but against flattery, which generally precedes them. He ought likewise to be so elegantly prepared for the great world, that he may reckon with safety on his own probity and qualifications, when an emergency arises to call them into action. In vain will a youth perplexed with difficulties

in the world, invoke the learning of Greece and Rome, if he be ignorant of the constitution of our nature, the modes of thinking which prevail, and the nice shades and distinctions that exist between right and wrong. He should understand well the constitution, laws, and genius civil and military of his native country, and he should not be imperfectly acquainted with the civil polity of surrounding nations. The Latin and Greek languages, considered as models of taste and fine writing, are useful to form the style, and sharpen the wit of men. But a coryphaeus in ancient learning is but a mere pedant if he be ignorant of the nature, beauties, and power of his mother tongue. His learning, which would otherwise be an useful ornament to his more practical knowledge, cannot but impede his progress in the world. An Englishman destined to reside in his native country, is to think, write, and speak in English, not in Latin or Greek; and the greatest cause that has hitherto obstructed the refinement of English literature, is the total neglect of our own language during our education. We cannot therefore be surprised when we find scholars express themselves awkwardly in it; or when we discover that the French, Italian, Latin, and Greek tongues, are better understood (because they are more attended to) than our own. Our acquaintance with the authors of antiquity should have taught us better plans. For according to the undoubted testimonies of Quintilian and Cicero, the greatest pains were taken to instruct the Roman youth in the Latin tongue, before they were taught the Greek, which was as foreign to them as French, Latin, or Greek are to the English. Were the Roman republic in existence, and were it judged proper that its youth should be conversant in the language of our country, we should find that it would not be attempted until they had been thoroughly acquainted with the general principles of Latin. The same observation will apply to us. Let the divine languages of antiquity be cultivated as a part of education, but let them not absorb the whole; let them assist the style, but never exclude the bold and simple energy of the British language."

p. 98.

THE ENGLISH GRAMMAR TOO MUCH  
NEGLECTED IN SCHOOLS.

"THE propriety of introducing the English grammar into English schools, cannot be disputed; a competent knowledge of our own language being both useful and ornamental in every profession, and a critical knowledge of it absolutely necessary to all persons of a liberal education. The little difficulty there is apprehended to be in the study of it, is the chief reason, I believe, why it hath been so much neglected. The Latin was so complex a language, that it made of necessity (notwithstanding the Greek was the learned tongue at Rome) a considerable branch of Roman school education: whereas ours, by being more simple, is, perhaps, less generally understood. And though the grammar-school be, on all accounts, the most proper place for learning it, how many grammar-schools have we, and of no small reputation, which are destitute of all provision for the regular teaching of it? Indeed, it is not much above a century ago, that our native tongue seemed to be looked upon as below the notice of a classical scholar; and men of learning made very little use of it, either in conversation, or in writing. And even since it hath been made the vehicle of knowledge of all kinds, it hath not found its way into the schools appropriated to language, in proportion to its growing importance. To obviate this inconvenience, we must introduce into our schools English grammar, English compositions, and frequent English translations from authors in other languages. The common objection to English compositions, that it is like requiring bricks to be made without straw (boys not being supposed to be capable of so much reflection as is necessary to treat any subject with propriety), is a very frivolous one; in many of which the whole attention may be employed upon language only; and from thence youth may be led on in a regular series of compositions, in which the transition from language to sentiment may be as gradual and easy as possible.

"The English language is, perhaps, of all the present European languages, by much the most simple in its form and construction. Of all the ancient languages extant, that is the most simple,

ple, which is undoubtedly the most ancient: but even that language itself does not equal the English in simplicity. The words of the English language are perhaps subject to fewer variations from their original form, than those of any other. Its substantives have but one variation of case; nor have they any distinction of gender, beside that which nature hath made. Its adjectives admit of no change at all, except that which expresses the degrees of comparison. All the possible variations of the original form of the verb are not above six or seven; whereas in many languages they amount to some hundreds: and almost the whole business of modes, times, and voices, is managed with great ease by the assistance of eight or nine commodious little verbs, called from their use auxiliaries. The construction of this language is so easy and obvious, that our grammarians have thought it hardly worth while to give us any thing like a regular and systematical syntax. In truth, the easier any subject is in its own nature, the harder is it to make it more easy by explanation; and nothing is more unnecessary, and at the same time commonly more difficult, than to give a demonstration in form of a proposition almost self-evident. It doth not then proceed from any peculiar irregularity or difficulty of our language, that the general practice both of speaking and writing it is chargeable with inaccuracy. It is not the language, but the practice, that is in fault. The truth is, grammar is very much neglected among us: and it is not the difficulty of the language, but on the contrary the simplicity and facility of it, that occasion this neglect. Were the language less easy and simple, we should find ourselves under a necessity of studying it with more care and attention. But as it is, we take it for granted, that we have a competent knowledge and skill, and are able to acquit ourselves properly, in our own native tongue: a faculty solely acquired by use, conducted by habit, and tried by the ear, carries us on without reflection; we meet with no rubs or difficulties in our way, or we do not perceive them; we find ourselves able to go on without rules, and we do not so much as suspect that we stand in need of them.

“A grammatical study of our own

language makes no part of the ordinary method of instruction, which we pass through in our childhood; and it is very seldom that we apply ourselves to it afterward. Yet the want of it will not be effectually supplied by any other advantages whatsoever. Much practice in the polite world, and a general acquaintance with the best authors, are good helps; but alone will hardly be sufficient: we have writers, who have enjoyed these advantages in their full extent, and yet cannot be recommended as models of an accurate style. Much less then will what is commonly called learning serve the purpose; that is, a critical knowledge of ancient languages, and much reading of ancient authors: the greatest critic and most able grammarian of the last age, when he came to apply his learning and his criticism to an English author, was frequently at a loss in matters of ordinary use and common construction in his own vernacular idiom. A good foundation in the general principles of grammar is in the first place necessary for all those who are initiated in a learned education; and for all others likewise, who shall have occasion to furnish themselves with the knowledge of modern languages. Universal grammar cannot be taught abstractedly: it must be done with reference to some language already known; in which the terms are to be explained, and the rules exemplified. The learner is supposed to be unacquainted with all but his native tongue; and in what other, consistently with reason and common sense, can you go about to explain it to him? When he has a competent knowledge of the main principles of grammar in general, exemplified in his own language, he then will apply himself with great advantage to the study of any other. To enter at once upon the science of grammar, and the study of a foreign language, is to encounter two difficulties together, each of which would be much lessened by being taken separately and in its proper order. For these plain reasons a competent grammatical knowledge of our own language is the true foundation upon which all literature, properly so called, ought to be raised. If this method were adopted in our schools; if children were first taught the common principles of grammar, by some short

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and clear system of English grammar, which happily by its simplicity and facility is perhaps fitter than that of any other language for such a purpose; they would have some notion of what they were going about, when they should enter into the Latin grammar; and would hardly be engaged so many years, as they now are, in that most irksome and difficult part of literature, with so much labour of the memory, and with so little assistance of the understanding.

“Whatever the advantages or defects of the English language be, as it is our own language, it deserves a high degree of our study and attention, both with regard to the choice of words which we employ, and with regard to the syntax, or the arrangement of these words in a sentence. We know how much the Greeks and the Romans, in their most polished and flourishing times, cultivated their own tongues. We know how much study both the French and the Italians have bestowed upon theirs. Whatever knowledge may be acquired by the study of other languages, it can never be communicated with advantage, unless by such as can write and speak their own language well. Let the matter of an author be ever so good and useful, his compositions will always suffer in the public esteem, if his expression be deficient in purity and propriety. At the same time, the attainment of a correct and elegant style, is an object which demands application and labour. If any imagine they can catch it merely by the ear, or acquire it by a slight perusal of some of our good authors, they will find themselves much disappointed. The many errors, even in point of grammar; the many offences against purity of language, which are committed by writers who are far from being contemptible, demonstrate, that a careful study of the language is previously requisite in all who aim at writing it properly.

“These observations appear to determine conclusively the subject which we have been discussing; they will suffice therefore to prove, that the application of a child to a dead language, before he is acquainted with his own, is a lamentable waste of time, and highly detrimental to the improvement of his mind. It was the neglect of the

cultivation of our own tongue, which excited the disgust of M. Voltaire.”  
P. 141.

ON THE EDUCATION OF THE MIDDLE CLASSES OF THE COMMUNITY.

“EMINENT scholars are the brightest ornaments of a nation: but the cultivation of ancient literature must be confined comparatively to a few; it never can become a national object in an institute of public education. Hence, the application of several years to the dead languages, by young persons whose views and situation in life are such as to preclude them from deriving any advantage or pleasure from this study, is an unprofitable and censurable waste of time. And though the attainment of classical learning should be open to every one desirous of feeling its charms, yet it should never be made a matter of necessity with boys destined to the inferior occupations. The same course of studies cannot be proper for the lawyer, the divine, the physician, the soldier, the sailor, the merchant, and the mechanic; and therefore, some other mode of instruction must be devised, different books read, and different exercises performed, in order to render youth competent to engage in their several spheres of active life, with credit to themselves and profit to the community. The present system of education is distributed, like a quack medicine, in equal proportions to all constitutions, and in all disorders; it was framed in times of popery and arbitrary power; an age when knowledge only began to dawn, after that long night which darkened all efforts of genius, and eclipsed with clouds of barbarous sophistry the luminous productions of Greece and Rome. But, what cannot fail to excite our admiration and pity at the obstinacy of established prejudices, it has subsisted for three centuries, unaltered by the revolutions which have taken place in the religious, political, and moral government of mankind, as well as in their manners, customs, and opinions.

“The causes of all these absurdities may be traced to one source. Ever since the days of Henry VIII. the stipend given for the instruction of boys has

has remained nearly the same. The poor schoolmaster, whose relative importance in society is much greater than the world imagines, is obliged to labour and toil for very low and inadequate sums, when the prices of all other masters and artists have increased in proportion to the increased wealth of the community. This hardship compels every master to make up in number, what is deficient in weight; and, to procure a competency, he is under the necessity of taking more boys under his care, to whom it is impossible he can do justice, or pay sufficient attention." P. 158.

"It is a serious blemish in the character of all parents, that they literally give larger wages to the men who train their dogs and horses, than to those who are to form the minds of their children to good or evil, to happiness or misery. It is a shame that not a fourth of what is commonly paid to the dancing-master, is allotted to the tutor; it is insufferable, that opera dancers, singers, mimics, and buffoons, riot in wealth, while the learned preceptor languishes in the midst of a laborious employment, in obscurity, and often in poverty. This complaint is as old as the time of Henry VIII. Roger Ascham, who was tutor to Queen Elizabeth, has the following remarkable passage on this head: 'Pity it is that commonly more care is had, yea, and that among very wise men, to find out rather a cunning man for their horse, than a cunning man for their children. They say nay, in word, but they do so in deed: for to one they will gladly give a stipend of two hundred crowns by the year, and loth to offer to the other two hundred shillings. God, that sitteth in heaven, laugheth their choice to scorn, and rewardeth their liberality as it should. For he suffereth them to have tame and well-ordered horses; but wild and unfortunate children; and therefore in the end, they find more pleasure in their horse, than comfort in their child.'" P. 463.

#### ARTICULATION—PROVINCIAL DIALECT, &c.

"AN unnatural elevation or depression of the voice, an indistinct articulation, and a corrupt or provincial dialect, are the three principal defects of

English readers: for lisping, which is the pronunciation of the letter S or Z, or C before E and I, as though it were TH, may be effectually remedied by selecting words where the letter S prevails, and pronouncing them with the teeth shut close, at the same time observing never to put the tongue between the teeth, except when *ts* occurs. Stammering is easily cured, by causing the child to speak very slowly and without fear. The first of the defects above mentioned, destroys whatever is graceful and beautiful in pronunciation, and whatever is various and energetic in discourse. To avoid it, a boy should be persuaded to read as he speaks, in order to preserve the natural key of his voice; which practice will qualify him, as occasions require, to raise or depress, to vary or modulate it. What can be more fatiguing to the reader, or more ridiculous and disagreeable to the auditor, than the following pathetic sentence from Thomson, delivered in an immoderately loud or overstrained voice:

- 'Unpitied, and unheard, where misery moans;
- 'Where sickness pines; where thirst and hunger burn,
- 'And poor misfortune feels the lash of vice.'

The following energetic passage from Milton, would be completely laughable if delivered in the same languid tone as the preceding:

- '——Back to thy punishment,
- 'False fugitive, and to thy speed add wings,
- 'Left with a whip of scorpions I pursue
- 'Thy lingering, or with one stroke of this dart
- 'Strange horrors seize thee, and pangs unselt before.'

"The second defect, which consists in confounding the words, and in drawing one sentence upon another, by which it is either impossible for the hearer to comprehend, or an attention is exacted from him too close to be long observed without pain and difficulty; is to be prevented by making a boy pronounce distinctly, but not slowly, every significant syllable; by causing all the stops or pauses to be observed; and by placing on the proper syllable, the stress of the voice or syllabical accent, and on such particular

lar words or portions of the sentence as the subject demands, the proper emphasis or oratorical accent. In narrative, boys are apt to fall into monotone, which may be easily avoided by rightly accenting the proper syllable; this communicates a surprising spirit and vivacity, as well as a proper distinction to words. If the following words were pronounced as they are accented (popular, vivacity, consequence), some time would elapse before the hearer could recognise them. I was once witness to a ludicrous circumstance of this sort while at college. A certain doctor of divinity, who was, at the same time, a man of taste, politeness, and unexceptionable character, was reading the second lesson, in which were these words—"Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" It happened that the sun shone full in his face at the time, and as he pronounced the words in the Lancashire dialect, and in a sharp tone, as if spelt thus—"Sol, Sol, why 'persecutest thou me?" the association which it raised in our minds between the ever-memorable instant of the conversion of the great apostle of the Gentiles, and the master of a college, tormented by the sunbeam, produced such an instantaneous effect, that several of us burst into a loud fit of laughter." P. 210.

"In the lectures on elocution which have been published by Mr. Sheridan, he very properly observes that the rule of throwing the accent as far back as possible, is absurd and pedantic; and, if I remember rightly, he illustrates this position by several striking examples. He remarks respecting emphasis, that in the play of Macbeth, there is a passage, which, as it has been generally spoken on the stage, and read by most people, is downright nonsense; but in itself is a very fine one, and conveys an idea truly sublime. It is the expression of Macbeth after he has committed the murder, when he says, 'Will all great Neptune's ocean wash this blood

'Clean from my hands? No—these hands will rather,

'The multitudinous sea incarnadine,

'Making the green one, red.'

"Now the last line pronounced in that manner, calling the sea the green one, makes nonsense of it. But if we read it with proper emphasis and stop, and say, make the green—one red;

here is a most sublime idea conveyed, that his hands dipped into the sea, would change the colour of the whole ocean from green to red. Nor if we consider the disturbed state of his imagination at that time, will this thought, hyperbolical as it may seem at first view, appear at all unnatural? For it is highly probable that his fancy at that instant presented all objects about him as of that sanguine hue; nay, converted the very atmosphere that surrounded him, into a sea of blood.

"Perhaps, no better admonition can be given on the subject of reading, than the memorable answer of Betterton to the Bishop of London, who inquired of him, 'what could be the reason that 'whole audiences should be moved 'to tears, and have all sorts of passion 'excited, at the representation of some 'story on the stage, which they knew 'to be feigned, and in the event of 'which they were not at all concerned; yet that the same persons should 'sit so utterly unmoved at the discourses from the pulpit, upon subjects 'of the utmost importance to their temporal and their eternal interests?' He received this memorable reply: 'My 'Lord, it is because we are in earnest.'

"Lastly, as a provincial dialect betrays an evident defect of instruction in the early part of life, confirmed by long habit, every possible attention should be given to remedy this article. It is a remarkable fact, to which I have paid particular attention, both here and abroad, that the fair sex deliver themselves with far more correctness and purity than we do. The fact itself I am not able to resolve into any general principle, unless it be ascribed to that spirit of imitation, in which they excel, and to the refined taste which that spirit is calculated to excite. The Athenians (and the French, who in many respects resemble them) were particularly careful of their mode of pronunciation. It is reported by Quintilian, though I cannot immediately point to the passage, that one of the most elegant writers of Greece experienced a severe mortification from a fruit-woman at Athens, whose commodities he was endeavouring to cheapen. She replied, 'Stranger, I can take nothing less.' Struck with astonishment, he inquired her meaning, when he was answered, that he did not pronounce a certain word according to the Attic

Attic dialect. The young people of Athens were sent first to learn grammar, under masters who taught them regularly their own language; by which they attained a knowledge of its whole beauty, energy, number, and cadence. In short, to speak English well, a person should speak in such a manner that no one should discover whether he be a native of London, Edinburgh, or Dublin. Sheridan's Dictionary appears to me to be the most useful work on this subject, and preferable to Walker's Dictionary." P. 213.

A PLAN FOR THE STUDY OF GEOGRAPHY—GENERAL PSIFFER'S CURIOUS MODEL OF THE FOREST CANTONS.

"GEOGRAPHY is a science so very easy and entertaining, and its advantages so numerous and extensive, that it cannot fail to attract the attention, and to make a permanent impression on the minds of children. When the division is about to enter upon this study, the tutor should explain by lecture, that is, verbally, the nature and use of the science; the structure of the earth, its division, and the evidences of its rotundity. For, the first conceptions of a boy respecting the formation of the earth, are much the same as those of the savage becoming civilized. We find from the reports of voyagers and travellers, that uninstructed nations generally suppose the earth to be a flat extended surface, surrounded by water. This was my own idea of it during infancy; and from the narrative of Lord Macartney's embassy, by Sir George Staunton, it appears that this is still the opinion even of the enlightened Mandarins of China. As it is impossible that boys can make a rapid progress in any study, if they be deficient in its fundamental parts; this false conception should be rectified, if possible, by ocular demonstration; if not, by such methods as approach nearest to it. I have not hitherto been so fortunate as to meet with any system of geography, which treats of these subjects in a demonstrative method; and therefore I shall suggest a plan, which will enable the lecturer to demonstrate to the eye, the instruction he wishes to convey to the mind.

"I propose, therefore, that there

should be a large globular alto-relief in every under academy, which should represent the form of the earth, and the diversities on its surface. This will strike the senses most forcibly, and leave a more durable impression on the mind than any which can be derived from books or lectures. The machine should revolve on its axis in the same manner as a common globe, and represent on its superficie the continents, islands, peninsulas, isthmuses, and capes, or promontories, the oceans, seas, gulfs, bays or creeks, straits, lakes, and rivers, into which the world is divided. The tutor should explain the various distributions of territory and water, at the same time that he points to each object on the machine. Thus, when he defines the nature of an island as a body of land, entirely surrounded by water, he should point to the island, represented on the machine, which will have the appearance of a small spot raised above the surface, and will exactly describe the object in contemplation. If he want to give an account of any particular island, he must refer to our common geographical globes for a correct description of its shape and size; the object of the machine proposed, being only to give general ideas of the nature of islands, promontories, &c. &c. not of any particular island or promontory.

"If there be any merit in the invention of such a simple instrument of knowledge, it belongs not to me; for the idea was first suggested to my mind, by the sight of a splendid and ingenious geographical alto-relief, in the shape of a parallelogram, invented by Lieutenant General Psiffer, of Lucerne in Switzerland. This able and venerable geographer, when above seventy years of age, climbed the cloud-capt mountains of his native country, and amidst the roar of cataracts, and of lavanges loosened from their beds, and tumbling down with precipitate destruction, literally traced the topography of the Forest Cantons, with such correct exactitude, that it may justly challenge the superiority over any undertaking of the kind, that has ever been performed in any age or nation of the world. His alto-relief represents every lake, mountain, cataract, and rivulet. Whenever he had reached the summit of a mountain, he picked up a stone, and on his return to Lucerne modelled



it to the precise shape of the mountain itself, which he described on his machine: lakes are represented by bits of slate, fashioned according to the exact form of those he saw; a cataract is depicted by a little silver chain, a river by wire, and a road by light cords. The whole is a prodigious example of unshaken perseverance, of surprising ingenuity, of accurate discrimination, and of able workmanship. Nor was the execution more wonderful, than the undertaking dangerous. For in taking his observations, the ice would crack, and often threaten to overwhelm him in the depths of snow beneath. In all these adventurous excursions, his only sustenance was the milk of two she-goats, which were his sole companions in this wild scene. While he was taking his observations, they browsed on the declivity of the mountains; when he had finished and recalled them, they returned with ecstacy at the sound of his voice. By the help of a little salt, of which those creatures are extremely fond, and a bag of which the General always carried with him, he induced them to follow his dangerous steps over all those terribly sublime and sequestered regions.

"When the boys are perfected in the demonstrative part of the science, that is, are able to trace the boundaries of the several kingdoms, states, and empires; to mark the principal towns and cities, the various divisions of land and water; the numerous islands, peninsulas, and promontories; the seas, lakes, and rivers, as exhibited on the terrestrial globe, or laid down in accurate maps; they should be lectured on the artificial lines and distinctions, which have been invented by geographers, to carry on their systems. A terrestrial globe should be placed on a table, and the tutor should explain the two points or poles, on which the earth is supposed to perform her diurnal motion, as well as the meaning and application of the terms equator, meridians, degrees, minutes, tropics, polar circles, zones, and climates. When they have acquired the knowledge of the various divisions of the globe, and of its inhabitants, as they are distinguished by their respective situations; they should then contemplate the whole world divided into two great continents; the eastern, comprehending Asia, Europe, and Africa; and the western, comprehending the

two divisions of North and South America.

"1. Asia with its various sovereignties, divisions, and subdivisions; their productions, their religions, their governments, their laws, customs, manners, and population. 2. Europe. 3. Africa. 4. America, with their productions, &c. Their minds should be thus impressed with the nature, properties, and extent of the globe; and in their progress, such general principles should be unfolded, as are easily comprehended. By such means the memory will be exercised, curiosity awakened, and they will be taught, almost without perceiving it, the rudiments of the important sciences of politics, commerce, navigation, and history." P. 261.

LXVIII. *Stoddart's Remarks on local Scenery and Manners in Scotland.*—  
(Continued from p. 303.)

STAFFA—BASALTIC COLUMNS—  
CAVE OF FINGAL.

"THE next morning we made our first attempt to reach Staffa, having first given in our names to the landlord, to be transmitted to — Mac Donald, Esq. proprietor of that island. It was not unusual for strangers to wait in vain, above a fortnight for fair weather; and should they land at an unfavourable time, the rising tempests might detain them, on the solitary spot, without hopes of assistance. Our excursion afforded us a proof of that respectful deference, with which the people here, probably from interested motives, consult the inclinations of their wealthy visitors. In the narrow Sound of Ulva, the sea was heaved into huge, white, breaking surges, by a most violent gale, and we were driven along so rapidly, that had we struck on any of the bold pointed rocks, by which we were surrounded, we must have been instantly dashed to pieces. After a little experience of this dangerous navigation, finding that the more we advanced into the open sea, the more tremendous it appeared, I asked the only one of our boatmen who understood English, whether we could possibly get to Staffa. He answered, 'assuredly not;' and when

pressed to know why they had taken us out on so fruitless an errand, he replied, that it was merely in compliance with our wish to set sail.

"As we rowed along the southern shore of Ulva, our attention was strongly arrested by the singular rocks which form its natural rampart. They are black, rugged, and horrid; sometimes wildly irregular, broken into caverns and chasms; sometimes piled into huge masses, like the narrow lanes of a crowded city; and sometimes moulded into long lines of embattled columns, exhibiting a gradual approach to the regularity of Staffa. Landing near these tremendous cliffs, we explored their gloomy recesses; which presented scenery so magnificently savage, that we did not regret the delay, which occasioned our examination of them. The rest of the island was also interesting. The southern and western sides consist of small hills, whose summits, for the most part, form regular ranges of basaltic columns. The little vales, between these, are cultivated in scanty patches, and have scarcely any wood; but finding a sheltered spot surrounded with a few trees, near the farm of Orsmag, we took our dinner there, in the open air. Leaving our boat safe moored, on the farther side of the island, we returned across the mountain, from the top of which we were first gratified with a view of Staffa, and had a noble prospect all around. On the eastern side of the island, its proprietor, — Macdonald, Esq. of Boisdale, has built a house, which, from the bareness of every thing about it, has a most dreary look. The view this way, however, is very fine, comprehending the opening of Loch na Gall, with the bold shores and lofty mountains of Mull. More to the south appear several small islands, many of them scarcely islands, rocky points: amongst them is Inch Kenneth, celebrated by a week's residence of Dr. Johnson, in the simple hut of Sir Allan Maclean. In the open sea, are scattered a vast number of islands, from Icolmkill, on the south-west, to Staffa, on the west, and Coll and Tiree, on the north-west. Among the phenomena which we observed in this prospect, none was more novel and surprising to us, than the torrents, which we saw, at seven or eight miles distance, on the sides of the mountains in

Mull, blown upward in spray, by the violence of the wind, and appearing like a thick smoke.

"In the evening we crossed the narrow ferry, to Laggan Ulva; and the next morning, recrossing it, returned to our boat. The weather was somewhat more favourable, and we being no less anxious to prosecute our voyage, again set sail. Our course was expeditious; and though the day was tolerably calm, the waves of the Atlantic ran very high, affording a grand and majestic spectacle. Ulva, which we had just quitted, is nearly three miles in length, and is divided by a very narrow sound from Gometra, another considerable island: about two miles to the west is Colonsay; and eight miles beyond this is Staffa.

"The most commodious time for visiting the island, is a little before low water, as it is impossible to land at high water, if the sea be at all rough. We reached it at this precise period, and in the lowest tide of the whole year. On our approach, it presented a mass of rock about half a mile in length, and of no very remarkable appearance, until we were near enough to discern the columns, caverns, &c. in its bare sides, and the scanty verdure sprinkled on the top. Toward the north, the rock seems more rude and unformed; but the southern extremity is enriched with all the diversities of a strange, and surprising, natural architecture. On a very calm day, with the wind to the eastward, it may be worth while to row round the island, and enter the caves, in a boat; but if the wind is in the least degree westerly, a boat would be dashed to pieces in making such an experiment.

"Landing, therefore, on the east, we directed our steps towards the southern side: but first climbed a small eminence, on which is built the herdsman's hut. In this solitary abode, remains the herdsman, with his wife and family, during half the year, to attend twenty small cattle, whose pasture is all that the island produces: and in this hut, uninhabited during the other half year, must the unfortunate storm-staid traveller take refuge, without hope of any provision but what he brings with him. This danger is not imaginary; for I have known persons who have been kept so long in this terrible situation, as to be apprehensive of

of famine; existing all the while in a shelter, scarcely better than that of the distracted Lear.

"The foil, which in all parts of the island is very thin, is worn off in several places, and shows the general tendency of the rock to assume a columnar form, disposed in different directions, perpendicular, oblique, or horizontal, as well curved as straight. To describe all the whimsical appearances, which it assumes, is impossible: some of them seem to be Gothic arches and doors, others vaulted roofs, others colonades, causeways, &c. The most remarkable are the caves: all of them open to the sea, which at the lowest ebb washes their base, and at high water almost fills their interior. The first is the Clamshell Cave, so called from the resemblance of its upper part to that shell, on a large scale: the top is open at the entrance, and, consisting of columns bent like reversed parts of an arch, has impressed the country people with the notion of that similitude, from which its name is taken.

"Immediately beyond this is a remarkable pyramidal aggregation of pillars, all of them truncated, short, and pointing in different directions to the top. This heap being divided by a narrow channel from the main island, has been called *Buachaille*, the herdsman, a name very frequently given in the Highlands to detached rocks, or mountains, standing before others, like a herdsman before his herd. This is corruptly called by many writers Boosha-la. As every strange phenomenon, in these regions, is connected traditionally with the Fions; the *Buachaille* is said to consist of 8000 distinct stones, on each of which stood one of those warriors; how they found a firm footing, or sufficient room, it is not easy to discover.

"Turning toward the south-west, is a causeway of regular truncated columns, bordered by a wall of pillars, which instead of cornice, architrave, &c. have a stratum of irregular, and, as it were, half-formed basalt. The general colour of the rock is a deep purplish black, except where it is tinged by lichens, sea-weed, &c. The texture of the pillars is fine, but their surface rather rough, resembling dried mortar; and they are mostly cracked in a direction at right angles to their elevation. They are of different forms, all regular

polygons, mostly pentagonal or hexagonal, but some quadrilateral, or even trilateral. They have at times fallen down, and perhaps the whole causeway has been thus formed; but few of the entire columns are known to have fallen within living memory. In the fissures of the basalt are small veins of whitish spar, but not abundant. Every step we take here excites new admiration; and a most singular sensation is produced, by the evident confusion of natural operations, and the no less evident resemblance which they bear to those of art. It may be imagined, that the formality, which renders this scene unmanageable by the pencil, would detract much from the sublimity of the feeling produced; but it has, perhaps, a contrary effect. The greatness of the scale forcibly impresses the idea of greatness in the operating cause; and the regularity of disposition, approaching so near to human intelligence, invests that cause with a solemn mysterious character. Much as this spot is celebrated, I have never known a person, whose expectations were not more than gratified in seeing it. This rare excellence is owing probably to its perfect novelty: we have none, or very inaccurate standards, by which to form our previous judgments, and are agreeably surprised, to find them so much surpassed by the reality.

"The most striking scene of the whole island, that in which Nature seems to have striven with, and vanquished Art, in her own province, is the great cave fronting the south-west, called *Uaimb na Fion*, the cave of Fingal. Mr. St. Fond, by arbitrarily changing the word *Fion* into *Fóinn*, a tune, deduces its name from a musical sound, produced here, as he says, by the sea. For my part, I heard nothing more musical in the waves, which fill the bottom of this cavern, than in those which wash any other part of the island; but the predilection of the Highlanders for their favourite chief is not ill shown, in assigning to him so magnificent a hall, which seems formed by nature for the assemblage of great and venerable characters. The entrance is an irregular arch, fifty-three feet broad, and one hundred and seventeen high; the interior is two hundred and fifty feet in length, and appears longer from its diminishing perspective. The sides, which are straight, are d-

vided into pillars; some of those on the east, having been broken off near the base, form a passage along that side, by which, with some difficulty, I reached the very farthest end, and seated myself in a kind of natural throne, formed in the rock. It seemed that few persons had gone so far; as a great number of names were inscribed on a column not easy to pass, but very few beyond it. From this seat, the general effect of the cave appears truly magnificent, and well calculated to form the eye and the taste of a picturesque architect. The broken, irregular, basaltic roof, resembled the rich ornaments of some grand Gothic buildings; the truncated columns on the sides, those ranged seats, on which, it might be supposed, the Fingalian heroes,

‘In close recess, and secret conclave sat,

‘Frequent and full.’

Being lighted only from without, the gradual deepening of the gloom gives solemnity to the scene; and a beautiful singularity is added by the sea dashing below, and the island of Icolmkill, with its ruined cathedral, appearing, exactly in front, on the horizon.

“The knowledge of this extraordinary spot is one of the many benefits which have been conferred on public taste and science, by the present learned President of the Royal Society. Sir Joseph Banks, who visited it in the year 1772, drew up the first correct and interesting account of it, inserted in Mr. Pennant’s *Tour*. Its parallel is no where to be found, unless, perhaps, in the Giant’s Causeway in Ireland; but it seems to be generally agreed by those persons who have seen both, that Staffa is much the more magnificent.”

*Vol. i. p. 298.*

#### A HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN.

“IN returning merrily to Ulva, we learnt that an old Highland chieftain, Mac Quarry of Mac Quarry\*, resided on the small island of Colonsa. His fortune, indeed, was decayed; he had parted with Ulva, Staffa, and a very extensive property, and was reduced to this little domain; but still he re-

tained the old Highland spirit of hospitality, and would have been hurt at our passing his shore without a visit. The welcome which he gave us to his little hut, was of the warmest kind. Whiskey, his own recipe for long life, he recommended without limitation to his friends, and would not suffer us to depart without going through all the ceremonies of the parting cup.”

*Vol. i. p. 309.*

#### HIGHLAND SUPERSTITIONS.

“IT is not surprising that a country like this should be marked by superstitions; but, in general, I found that they were wearing fast away. Every peasant spoke of the belief in them, as originating in times of darkness, and contrasted it with the clear and accurate knowledge of the present day. Yet some part of this belief still exists. Among the peculiar superstitions of this country is the *River Horse*, a supernatural being, supposed to feed, in the shape of a horse, on the banks of Loch Lochy, and, when disturbed, to plunge into its waters. He is lord of the lake, and with his motion shakes the whole expanse. His power is not always used for good purposes: he sometimes overturns boats; sometimes entices mares from the pasture—in short, he is a complete Water-King! Akin to this, but not supernatural, is the *River Bull*, a harmless creature, who is supposed to emerge from the lake into the pasture of cows. The Highland herdsmen pretend, that they can distinguish the calves, which spring from this union.

“I know not whether these notions have any other than a local prevalence; but there are some such beliefs, which are common to the whole Highlands. These are traceable to different religions, the Druidical, the Scandinavian, and the Roman Catholic; and they may be illustrated by many proverbial expressions, popular tales, songs, and singular customs connected with them. Some of them regard particular times, as Beltane, Hallow E’en, *Sheachbanna na bleanagh*, or the unlucky day, New Year’s day, &c. Some relate to places,

\* “This is the mode of designating the head of a clan, anciently thus, Mac Quarry of that ilk, or *de eodem*. It is deemed the most honourable of all designations, and, like all other Highland titles, is used simply in speaking to a person: thus you say Mac Quarry, or Ulva, not Mr. Mac Quarry.”

such



such as the ruins of old Catholic chapels, hills and glens dedicated to fairies, the stone at Stenhouse sacred to Odin. Some respect persons real or imaginary, as those possessed of the second-sight, witches, warlocks, conjurors, giants, fairies, brownies, *Booban*, or hobgoblins, kelpies or water-sprites, mermaids, wood-ladies, and wraiths. Finally, such notions are attached to things, real or fictitious, to elf-shots, elf-knots; *Druch*, or ominous meteors; Glamour, or visual deception, charms for love, or for diseases, accidental circumstances, and peculiar customs, at funerals, &c. &c. All these notions may, perhaps, have their counterparts, among the lower classes of society, in more populous and polished districts; but they must necessarily affect the mind most forcibly in these solitudes, amidst objects of such accordant sublimity; and in return, they must invest those objects with additional awe and terror." Vol. ii. p. 57.

"Invergarry was one of the places believed, till very lately, to be frequented by a Brownie, an innocent little being, answering in every thing but size, to Milton's 'drudging goblin,' who

— 'sweat,

'To earn his cream-bowl duly set,  
'When in one night, ere glimpse of morn,  
'His shadowy flail had thresh'd the corn,  
'Which ten day-lab'ers could not end.'

"The presence of the Brownie was believed to be fortunate. He forsook the house, on being scalded by one of the servants: and it was remarked, that for some time after his departure all the domestic business went wrong. So says the legend of Glen-garry; and who will doubt it, when even the learned and reverend Olaus Wormius appeals to common experience for the existence of similar beings: 'Qui se, adhuc nostrum seculo, in effigie humana, accommodare solent minit-teris hominum, nocturnis horis laborando, &c.\*' These sprites he believes to be the souls of men, who in their lifetime had been too prone to earthly pleasures; and he distinguishes them by the name of elves, a word, which, in Scotland, appears to be sy-

nonymous with fairies; but the brownie is always benevolent, the elf or fairy generally mischievous. The elf-shots are supposed to kill cattle, the elf-knots to entangle the hair: and the most fatal of all the supernatural delusions is the dance of

'Fairy elves,  
'Whose midnight revels, by a forest's side,  
'Or fountain, some belated peasant sees.'

"A countryman in this neighbourhood is believed to have been once ensnared in this manner. Crossing the mountains, with a keg of whiskey, he was charmed with the fairy music; and induced to join in their dance. At this exercise he continued a whole year, which appeared to him to be only a few hours. When the spell ceased, he returned home, very pale and emaciated; but was always looked upon with some suspicion; for it is believed, that they who have once joined the fairies, generally resort to them again, and at last are enrolled in their society. Upon the whole, the Scottish fairy is described with more terrific attributes, than are to be found in the traces of a belief in such beings, in England." Vol. ii. p. 64.

#### THE FALL OF FOYERS.

"ON the left of the road, from Fort William, is a wall, beyond which is heard the roaring of waters. Entering near two rude pillars, you almost immediately behold the wonderful scene. The mountain, on whose declivity you are standing, seems to have been rent asunder. The bold rocks louting on each other, from the opposite sides, form a deep jagged chasm of several hundred feet: part of their ruins remain bare and shattered, as in the moment of the earthquake, which first separated them; part are covered with heath and fern, and shaded by ragged woods of fir, and native birch. Through the 'shapeless breach' bursts a torrent, which, confined by the narrow channel above, shoots in one unbroken column, white as snow, into a deep caldron, formed by the black rocks below. By the vast height, and the large body of the water, a quantity of spray is created, which forms a perpetual shower, glittering like dew on the verdure

\* "Gent. Sept. Hist. ed. Lugd. Bat. 1645. l. iii. c. 10."

around,

around, casting a transparent mist over the gloomy caverned rocks, and rising like the smoke of a furnace, into the air. This appearance, seen at a considerable distance, has occasioned the country people to give it the picturesque name of *Eas na Smudh*, by which, as I before mentioned, they also characterize the falls above Kinloch Leven. No spot, however, which I have seen, is at all comparable to this, in the strong and sudden impression which it produces. The falls of Clyde are, indeed, more beautiful, more varied, and have a larger quantity of water; but the openness of the view renders them much less sublime. There is something in the darkness and imprisonment of wild overhanging crags, inexpressibly awful; and in this instance their grandeur is heightened by the kindred impulses around, by the ceaseless toil of the struggling river, by the thundering sound of a thousand echoes, and where the jutting barriers do not exclude the view, by the mighty summit of Meal Fourvanny, rising beyond the lake.

"The greatest poet of our days has attempted to describe this fall in verse; but however accurate he may have been in description, he has wholly erred with respect to poetical effect. In Burns's lines on the Fall of Foyers, no one recognizes that magic impulse, which at once touches the heart, in his pathetic pieces, or sets the table in a roar, by his effusions of humour. In fact, mere picture is not the province of the poet. External forms are only deserving his notice, as they may be connected with feeling, and serve for symbols in its communication. The sentiment must always be pre-eminent, the picture secondary; and very high-wrought description may be rendered subservient to very exquisite feeling: the fault lies not in describing; but in merely describing. These observations apply only to the poet; because we expect very different things in reading poetry and prose: the prose writer lays not so strong a claim to the excitement of feeling, and may, therefore, deal much more largely in description." *Vol. ii. p. 75.*

#### INVERNESS

"ITSELF may be considered as the capital of the north of Scotland; it contains above five thousand inhabitants; no town to the northward of it

possesses any thing like that number, nor is any town southward comparable to it in magnitude, until you reach Aberdeen. In consequence of this, manufactures and commerce, of which we had for some time seen no traces, here presented themselves to us. At one extremity of the town is a considerable establishment for the spinning, dressing, and weaving of hemp and flax. Many coasting and some foreign vessels frequent the harbour, which admits those of 200 tons burden to its quay; those of 400 or 500 can anchor within a mile of the town. Education is conducted here on an extensive and liberal plan, by means of an academy calculated to afford initiatory knowledge to those who are intended for the learned professions, and to all others a complete course of instruction. Here, in fine, the legal business of the northern part of Scotland is transacted; and the circuit and other courts are held in the court-house, a convenient and handsome edifice.

"For purposes of amusement also, Inverness is a point of union to the nobility and gentry of the surrounding counties. The *Northern Meeting* attracts those of Sutherland, Caithness, Ross, Inverness, and Murray: it serves to keep alive a friendly intercourse between families scattered at a vast distance, over a thinly-inhabited country; and during the week of their annual assemblage, these circumstances seem to increase the liveliness and good humour of the party. The traveller who has an opportunity of contemplating, and of participating the pleasures of such a meeting, may deem himself in no small degree fortunate. There is something amiable and interesting in those local attachments which generally predominate, and which, whilst they strengthen the bonds of union among the inhabitants, render them doubly hospitable to a casual visitor." *Vol. ii. p. 88.*

"By the aid of my kind friend, Captain Robinson, and of — Inglis, Esq. Provost of Inverness, I soon examined whatever was curious in this town and neighbourhood. I visited the harbour, the manufactory near it, and the remains of the fort built by Cromwell. It is said, perhaps with some justice, that the garrisons sent by him into Scotland not only contributed to improve the country, by introducing

cing many articles of domestic accommodation, but also by that purity of dialect for which the inhabitants of this city have ever since been noticed. English is, indeed, spoken here with remarkable accuracy; but many of the lower classes also speak Gaelic, and this language is taught in the academy; so that Inverness may be considered, in this respect, as a barrier town, between the Highlands and Lowlands; beyond it, English is almost exclusively employed.

"The town, which is built with considerable neatness, slopes toward the river Ness, from an eminence, on which once stood the Castle. This was the supposed scene of Duncan's murder. It should have been rendered sacred by Shakspeare's poetry; but its remains were removed, for the sake of the stone, by some person who probably cared little about poetry, and felt no respect for the name of Shakspeare. On the other side, the town is connected with a suburb on the western bank of the Ness, by a stone bridge. In one of its buttresses is formed a dungeon, a cruel place of punishment for petty offences; but this pile has been disgraced by still greater cruelty. In 1746, a number of poor wretches, flying from the battle of Culloden, were taken, and conducted to this bridge, where they were beheaded, and their heads cast into the river." Vol. ii. p. 91.

"I should not quit Inverness, without mentioning a singular kind of paladium, with which the fate of the town is supposed to be, in some way or other, connected. *Clach na Cutan* is the toast of prosperity in all the festal entertainments of Inverness. It signifies the stone of the water-tubs, a relic brought from the river-side, where it had for ages served to support the tubs of the washers, and religiously preserved in the middle of the town.

"The river Ness is supposed to be impregnated with sulphur; but this has been denied by naturalists; it is, however, certain, that its waters possess some strong impregnation, which makes them usually disagree with strangers, and that they are particularly prejudicial to horses. To this supposed sulphureous property, some persons attribute the circumstance that the lake never freezes, which is more probably

owing to its depth. We can scarcely forbear smiling, when we hear Dr. Johnson gravely arguing on the impossibility, that the depth of water should prevent its freezing; a subject on which his profound ignorance should at least have suggested to him the propriety of hesitation. The word Ness has been supposed to be taken from an adjacent *Nesi*, or promontory: I should rather conceive that it was first applied to the lake, which probably was called, from the celebrated fall of Foyers, *Loch-an-cais*, the lake of the waterfall." Vol. ii. p. 94.

#### CALDER CASTLE.

"AT Calder Castle we again find some of those wild but confined scenes, which the hollows of a river or streamlet often afford. The castle, from which the present Lord Cawdor takes his title, was built in 1454, and came into the possession of his Lordship's family, by marriage, in 1510. Its antiquities are matter of the more interest, as being connected with the immortal poetry of Shakspeare. Calder, a name common to streams in Scotland, is derived from the Gaelic language\*. Its usual pronunciation is Cawdor; and hence that name is given by Shakspeare to one of the Thanes sacrificed to the rising greatness of Macbeth. In fact, history informs us, that this usurper cut off the Thane of Nairn, by whom is undoubtedly meant the Thane of Calder, he being heritable sheriff and constable of Nairn. The office of Thane implied jurisdiction, and was derived from the Teutonic *dienen*, to serve; it was succeeded by the title of Earl (from the Teutonic *ehre* and *all*), first introduced by King Malcolm Canmore. The last Thane of Calder was William, who in 1476 had his thanedom erected into a free barony." Vol. ii. p. 108.

"Enough of curious and interesting is to be seen both within and without doors. The apartments are admirably suited to the wildness of the situation; the stone staircases, the large cold hall, the iron-grated doors, the aged tapestry, the pictures shaking in their frames, the

'Long windows that exclude the light,  
'And passages that lead to nothing.'

\* "*Caol*, a wood; *dur*, water."

All these render Calder Castle a dangerous abode for persons possessed of weak nerves and strong imaginations. Add to this, that it contains some pieces of antiquity no less mysterious than venerable. In the lowest part of the building, the trunk of an hawthorn-tree, firm and sound, grows out of the solid rock, and seems to support the roof of the vault. The founder, it is said, was admonished in a dream to build his castle on one of three hawthorn-trees which grew near together; he chose this, and its decay, it is believed, would be a most fatal omen, both to the building and to its proprietors. A still more valuable relic is preserved in an upper room of the tower—the very bed in which Macbeth murdered the virtuous Duncan! It was brought hither on the destruction of Macbeth's castle at Inverness, and is a square fabric of wood not inelegantly carved. A criticising antiquary might, perhaps, doubt whether it was of so early manufacture as the eleventh century, or, if he should swallow the pious fraud, it would be because, like Juvenal's turbot, '*Ipse capi voluit*,' he wished to be taken in.

"The external appearance of the castle corresponds with these its internal wonders. It is built on a freestone rock, washed by the Calder on the west; and on the other sides is a dry ditch, with a drawbridge, which is still occasionally raised and let down. The tower is the most ancient remaining part. Within the court is a ruinous chapel, probably of equal date; but the habitable apartments are much more modern. The sheltered situation of the building precludes any good distant view of it; but abundance of wild scenery is to be found by tracing upward the Calder burn, which flows, to join the Nairn, from among high rocks and woody banks. One singular crag is called Philip's Castle; and on another is built a mossy hermitage, which, when I saw it, had a most whimsical effect, the whole fabric being thrown, by the force of the wind, into an oblique position, and leaning far over its base. The hills around are the haunt of the red deer and roe; and at one or two delightful spots, are placed rude seats, commanding views of the tower, backed by the distant sea, beyond which is seen the opening of the Cromarty Firth." Vol. ii. p. 109.

(To be continued.)

LXIX. *Observations on the Winds and Monsoons*; illustrated with a Chart, and accompanied with Notes geographical and meteorological. By JAMES CAPPER, formerly Colonel and Comptroller-general of the Army and Fortification Accounts on the Coast of Coromandel. 4to. pp. 234. 15s. Debbett, Leigh and Sotheby.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE PREFACE.

"IN treating of the regular monsoons of India, I have often availed myself of the information of Monf. D'Apres, author of that admirable work, the '*Neptune Oriental*.' Nevertheless, in some few respects I have found it necessary to differ from him, particularly respecting a comparison of the winds which prevail in the Arabian Gulf and the Persian Gulf. But his work is intended to describe the course of the winds only, and not to account for the causes of them, otherwise it might have been prudent implicitly to adopt his sentiments. After having so often benefited by his advice, it would be highly ungrateful not to acknowledge my obligations to him both as a navigator and an author.

"But as he has written only on the hydrography of the East Indies, I have added, amongst the notes and illustrations, a journal of the weather for twelve months, kept on shore at Madras; in which are noted the winds upon the coast, and inland, at different seasons of the year, and in which is particularly stated the commencement and duration of the long-shore winds, and the land and sea breezes, which never extend more than three or four leagues out at sea.

"These winds, which blow at the same time, but in a different direction from the regular monsoon, will probably be considered as a strong presumptive proof of the truth of this hypothesis.

"For information on the subject of the winds and weather in Egypt and the Arabian Gulf, added to my own slight knowledge of them, I have in general had recourse to the work of Mr. Volney, which is very deservedly admired for the correctness of the narrative, and for the depth and ingenuity of the remarks. As the inundation of the Nile has always excited the attention



tion of the curious, I have likewise had recourse to authentic materials for marking the regular period of its return: in one of these sources of information, each particular year, during the course of thirty years, is distinguished, wherein that dreadful scourge of the human race, the plague, appeared in the city of Cairo. It is a prevailing opinion in Egypt, that this malady commences about the winter solstice, continues through the spring to the summer solstice, and generally (the natives say always) ceases with the overflowing of the Nile. Humanity requires that great pains should be taken to ascertain this fact; for if the time of its commencement and duration can be clearly established, we shall have advanced one step at least towards a discovery of its cause; and the cause once discovered, in this as in every other dangerous disease, the fatal consequences may possibly, by medical skill, be in future prevented.

"It has always appeared to me worthy of observation, and indeed I have already mentioned it in a former work, that in Hindostan, where, in some parts, the climate is nearly the same as in Egypt, the religion of a considerable portion of the natives precisely the same; where the cities are built in the same style, and all their habits of life of course are perfectly similar; the plague, that species of it, at least, which proves so destructive to the inhabitants of Cairo, has never yet appeared. But so far from the overflowing of the Ganges, in the Delta of Bengal, being considered as salutary, in the South and S.E. extremities of that province, it is considered as the most unhealthy season of the year.

"This difference in the climates of Egypt and Bengal, countries which in many respects resemble each other, may probably be imputed to the following circumstances. The two principal rivers run in diametrically opposite directions: the Nile from the south to the north, and the Ganges from the north to the south; so that the former enters the sea beyond the tropic, and the latter within it. The Delta of Egypt below Cairo, therefore, is in a temperate climate, in an open and populous country, properly drained and well cultivated, with a fertile soil, composed of loam and

sand; whilst that of Bengal, below Calcutta, is neither drained nor cultivated, for the tides from the Gulf of Bengal introduce in the southern part of the Delta great quantities of sand and sea-salt, and of course leave considerable stagnant pools of water amongst the brushwood, which all together produce noxious vapours, that render the air of these parts extremely unwholesome.

"Whilst then the overflowing of the Nile brings health and fertility to the Egyptians, who have always employed the waters of that river for the improvement of their lands, the Ganges in the Delta, for want of proper management, brings with its fertilizing qualities, near the sea at least, disease and death." P. xiv.

"When the thought first occurred of attempting to investigate the causes of the winds, great doubts of success arose in my mind, from the apparent number and variety of them, even of those within the tropics, where they are most regular; but as I proceeded, these difficulties gradually vanished; for the tempest, tufsoon or typhon, the hurricane, and the tornado, were soon discovered to be mere distinctions, without the shadow of difference; and only the English, the Greek, or Persian, the Italian, or Spanish name for a whirlwind.

"This point gained, my next inquiry was into the nature of what are generally called the trade winds and the monsoons.

"With the treatise of Dr. Halley before me, added to my own knowledge on these subjects, I was surprised to find the following description of the trade wind in Dr. Johnson's Dictionary: 'Trade wind, the monsoon, the periodical wind between the tropics.' And again, under the article Monsoon: 'Monsoons are shifting trade winds in the East Indian ocean, which blow periodically; some for half a year one way, others but for three months, and then shift and blow for six or three months directly contrary.'

"On a reference to Bailey likewise, I found his explanation of the trade wind equally unsatisfactory; he defines it 'a wind which at certain times blows regularly one way at sea, without in the tropics;' which, he adds (probably

bably by way of marking the origin of the term), is of great service to ships in trading voyages.

"But the trade wind, as it has hitherto been called, blows always, not at certain times, from the east toward the west; and in all parts of the ocean within the tropics, where it is beyond the influence of the land, it is subject to very slight variations from that point. In the northern tropic, a few degrees beyond that side of the equator, it varies only a point or two, more or less, to the northward; and so likewise at the same distance to the south of the equator, it inclines occasionally rather more or less to the southward. But as those winds are equally useful both to trading ships and men of war, they might, I think with more propriety, be called the perennial winds, being the only current of air which constantly moves the same way in any part of the world. In the following treatise, accordingly, I shall beg leave to distinguish them by the name of the northern and southern perennial winds.

"The term monsoon is not derived, as is often supposed, from the name of a famous mariner, but from the Persian word *Monsum*, Season. There are two winds of this name, distinguished in India by the N. E. and S. W. monsoons, which in some respects may be said to change alternately every six months, according to the situation of the sun in the ecliptic." P. xviii.

"The ancients, no doubt, clearly understood the nature of winds, but those last mentioned must of course have been perfectly unknown to them. The discovery of such as prevailed at a distance from land, was reserved for the more enlightened ages of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, when mariners, by the help of the compass, could venture to extend their voyages beyond sight of land; and indeed when lights of various kinds, connected with this subject, suddenly burst forth upon the world, and dispelled the mists of error, with which mankind had long been surrounded.

"Amongst the principal causes which produced these advantages in favour of modern times, may be considered the revival and confirmation, if not the discovery, of the true planetary system of Copernicus." P. xx.

"Whilst consulting maps, when the

picture of them immediately strikes the eye, no error or confusion can arise to those who are in any degree conversant in geography, from places being described by different appellations; but the person who in reading should meet with a remark relating to the Red Sea, would in all probability not know the place alluded to, if mentioned by the name of the Arabian Gulf, as it is frequently called by different geographers: neither would he clearly comprehend that that which is sometimes called the Arabian Sea, is at other times named the Indian Sea. Besides, both these are equivocal terms; for the former might relate either to the Gulf of Sind, or what is usually called the Red Sea, as the latter might as well denote any other branch of the Indian Ocean.

"In the map, therefore, I have adopted the name of the Arabian Gulf, for the Red Sea; of the Gulf of Sind, for what is often called the Arabian Sea; and I have substituted the Gulf of Bengal, for what is usually termed the Bay of Bengal. The same definition, perhaps, will nearly apply to all seas, gulfs, and bays, namely, that they are a part of the ocean, or sea, nearly surrounded by land, excepting where they immediately communicate with the ocean; but all of them are easily distinguished by their different magnitudes, for there may be many gulfs in one sea, and many bays in one gulf; as the Gulf of Finland, and the Gulf of Bothnia, in the Baltic Sea; and the Bay of Campeachy, and the Bay of Honduras, in the Gulf of Mexico. The Mediterranean and the Baltic are properly seas. The Caspian and the Dead Seas, not having any apparent communication with the ocean, may, I think, be distinguished by the particular name of Inland Seas." P. xxv.

#### EXTRACTS.

##### CAUSE OF LAND AND SEA BREEZES: ON THE FORMATION OF CLOUDS, &c.

"MR. CLARE, in his Treatise on the Motion of Fluids, shows the cause of these breezes by an easy and familiar experiment. 'Take,' he says, 'a large dish, fill it with cold water, and into the middle of this put a water-plate filled with warm water: the first will represent

represent the ocean, the latter an island, rarefying the air above it. Blow out a wax candle, and if the place be still, on applying it successively to every side of the dish, the fuliginous particles of the smoke, being visible and very light, will be seen to move towards the dish, and rising over it, point out the course of the air from sea to land.

"Again, if the ambient water be warmed, and the dish filled with cold water, when the smoking wick of the candle be held over the centre of the plate, the contrary will happen, and show the course of the wind from land to sea."

"During the continuance of the land and sea breezes on the coasts of Coromandel and Malabar, both in the N.E. and S.W. monsoons, the wind on shore seems regularly to follow the course of the sun, and passes very perceptibly round every point of the compass in twenty-four hours.

"These winds blow constantly every year on the coast of Coromandel to the latter end of January, and continue during February and to the beginning of March, subject to very slight variations; but as the sun approaches towards the vernal equinox, the winds again become variable for some days, as they were about the autumnal equinox, until his declination is upwards of 7 degrees N. when the S.W. monsoon sets in, and often on the south part of the coast, with considerable violence. This change or reflux of air appears to be put in motion by the same means as that which comes from the opposite quarter; for as the sun's altitude increases daily in the northern hemisphere, the extensive body of land in the N.E. part of Asia must become much hotter than the ocean, and consequently a considerable degree of rarefaction will be produced over that part of the continent, whilst at the same season an immense body of cold air will come both from the Indian Ocean and the continent of Africa, in the southern hemisphere, to restore the equilibrium. The principal tracts of land of different temperatures on the two continents, bearing very nearly N.E. and S.W. of each other, will therefore become alternately the two opposite extreme points of rarefaction and condensation, and necessarily, according

to this theory, be the immediate causes of the N.E. and S.W. monsoons.

"But to those who have not considered the nature of the monsoons in India, it may appear somewhat inconsistent with this theory, that the N.E. monsoon, which blows with great force in October and November on the Coromandel coast, is scarcely felt a few degrees to the westward on the Malabar coast, and so *vice versa*. The S.W. monsoon, which blows with great strength on the Malabar coast in April, May, June, and July, is never felt with any degree of violence on that of Coromandel after its commencement, nor even then, excepting very far to the southward. It is true, both coasts are in the northern hemisphere, and might be supposed subject to the same effects from the situation of the sun; and to they certainly are in some degree, for the wind blows nearly in the same direction on both sides the peninsula; but on referring to the map, it will be found that the two coasts are separated by a double range of mountains, running almost N. and S.; the one immediately bounding the coast of Malabar, the other nearly in the middle of the peninsula, called the Ballagat, or country above the Passes; both which serve alternately as a screen to either coast during the different monsoons. Besides, they not only break the force of the wind, or current of air; but these mountains, being less electrified than the clouds coming from the sea, attract them; and it is supposed, when nearly in contact, take away their electrical fire, and cause them to precipitate the water they contain.

"It was not, originally, the immediate object of this work to account for the immense quantity of rain which constantly falls every year in India, during the different monsoons; nor shall I endeavour to solve this difficulty without very great doubt of success; nevertheless, as violent rains invariably accompany the change of the monsoons, it seems necessary to make the attempt, more especially as the two subjects seem on all occasions to be intimately related, or rather inseparably connected.

"Clouds are generally believed to be formed by vapours raised by solar or subterraneous heat from moisture in the earth, or in greater quantities from

water itself, and when so raised they are kept suspended in the middle regions of the atmosphere in the form of clouds, until by some means not yet indisputably ascertained, the water is again precipitated to the earth in rain.

"It may be necessary to premise, that in treating of this subject I shall generally make use of the word vapour for that which arises from water or any other fluid, and of the term exhalation for that which comes from the land.

"By some authors it is supposed, that both vapours and exhalations are small vesiculae detached, as before observed, from the earth or water by heat, and which must be specifically lighter than the air, or they could not ascend. When they have passed through the denser medium near the earth, attracted by the dry air above them, they continue to ascend until they arrive at a cold region, where they become condensed, and remain suspended, as before observed, in the form of clouds. In this state they continue floating, till by some new agent they are converted into rain, hail, snow, mist, &c. Others again, who equally admit that the clouds are formed by these vesiculae, think that they coalesce in the upper regions of the atmosphere, forming into little masses until they become too heavy to be any longer suspended, and then descend in rain. But this hypothesis cannot be well founded, for the vapours are perpetually ascending into the upper regions of the atmosphere, which are always cold; and consequently, according to this theory, they would again be precipitated in rain as soon as they have arrived at a certain height, which would almost constantly produce regular showers. The same objection applies to the system of Dr. Derham, who accounts for rain by supposing the vesiculae to be full of air, which (he says) becoming contracted in the colder regions, the watery shell, thus thickened, becomes heavier than the air, and is precipitated in rain by its comparative weight. But Dr. Franklin, in his Observations on Electricity, seems to account most rationally for the formation of the clouds and precipitation of rain. 'The sun supplies (or seems to supply),' he says, 'common fire to all vapours raised from the sea, or exhalations from the

land. Those vapours, which have both common and electrical fire in them, are better supported than those which contain only common fire; for when vapours rise into the coldest region above the earth, the cold will not diminish the electrical fire, if it doth the common. Hence clouds formed by vapours raised from fresh waters within land, from growing vegetables, moist earth, &c. more speedily and easily deposit their water, having but little electrical fire to repel and keep the particles separate. So that the greatest part of the water raised from the land is let fall on the land again; and winds blowing from the land to the sea are dry, therefore being little use for rain on the sea; and to rob the land therefore of its moisture, in order to rain on the sea, would be contrary to the unerring distributions of Nature.

"But clouds formed by vapours raised from the sea, having both fires, and particularly a great quantity of the electrical, support their water strongly, raise it high, and being moved by winds, may bring it over the middle of the broadest continent from the middle of the widest ocean. How these ocean clouds, so strongly supporting their water, are made to deposit it on the land where it is wanted, is next to be considered.

"If the ocean clouds are driven by winds against mountains, those mountains, being less electrified, attract them, and on contact take away their electrical fire (and being cold, their common fire also); hence the particles close towards the mountains, and towards each other. If the air was not much loaded, it would only fall in dews on the mountain tops and sides, form springs, and descend into the vales in rivulets, which united make larger streams and rivers. But being much loaded, the electrical fire is at once taken from the cloud, and on leaving it the particles coalesce for want of that fire, and fall in heavy showers.

"When a ridge of mountains thus dams the clouds, and draws the electric fire from the cloud first approaching it, that which next follows, when it comes near the first cloud (now deprived of its fire), flashes into it, and begins to deposit its own water. The first cloud again flashing into the mountains,



‘mountains, the third approaching cloud, and all the succeeding ones, act in the same manner as far back as they extend, which may be over many hundred miles of country.’

“It is evident from the geographical situation of the peninsula of India, that the clouds which are conveyed over it in both monsoons, must be saturated with moisture. In the N.E. monsoon the vapours will be raised from the sea in the Gulf of Bengal, and as they approach the land on the coast of Coromandel, the clouds, in the manner above described, will be made to discharge their contents in great torrents of rain. So likewise in the S.W. monsoon, the vapours will be raised in the Gulf of Sind and the Indian Ocean, and they also in the same manner will discharge their contents on the Malabar coast and amongst the Ballagat mountains.

“But as an additional proof of the truth of this hypothesis, it may be observed, that the quantity of rain which falls in the principal part of South America, as well as in this part of India, is constantly in proportion to the height and extent of the mountains, to the length of time that the wind continues to convey the clouds towards the land, and to the extent of the sea or ocean whence the water is evaporated which forms those clouds.

“The principal features of both these countries bear a striking resemblance to each other; those of the peninsula of India being in miniature almost precisely the same as those of America in the same parallel of latitude. The former is situated between the Gulf of Bengal and the Gulf of Sind; the latter between the South Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. Both countries have a lofty ridge of mountains, which run through the centre of them from N. to S.; and both have large rivers, apparently in exact proportion to the size of their respective mountains, which discharge themselves towards the E. into the sea.” P. 44.

#### WHIRLWINDS—ISLAND OF BERMUDAS.

“‘WHIRLWINDS,’ says Dr. Franklin, in one of his letters on philosophical subjects, ‘are of two kinds; one from the air ascending, and the other from the air descending. A

‘fluid moving from all points horizontally towards a centre must either ascend or descend; but air flowing on or near the surface of land or water, from all sides towards a centre, must necessarily at that centre ascend, the land or water hindering its descent. But if these concentrating currents be in the upper region of the atmosphere, they may indeed descend and cause a whirlwind; and when this current has reached either the earth or water, it must spread, and probably blow with great violence to a considerable distance from the centre. Of the two kinds of whirlwinds, that which ascends is the most common; but when the upper air descends, it is perhaps in a greater body, extending wider, as in thunder gusts, and without much whirlwind.’ If then this opinion be well founded, a common gale of wind, of moderate extent and short duration, may be supposed to proceed from the former; but when violent, of long continuance, and with less variation, from the latter.

“It would not, perhaps, be a matter of great difficulty to ascertain the situation of a ship in a whirlwind, by observing the strength and changes of the wind: if the changes are sudden and the wind violent, in all probability the ship must be near the centre or vortex of the whirlwind; whereas if the wind blows a great length of time from the same point, and the changes are gradual, it may be reasonably supposed the ship is near the extremity of it.

“Another extraordinary circumstance respecting these hurricanes should likewise be mentioned, as tending to a discovery of their causes; that they most frequently, it might perhaps with propriety be said always, occur near large bodies of land, but are not known at sea within the tropics, at least in that part of the ocean remote from the continent, or even at a considerable distance from extensive islands. It is a well-known fact, as the name itself implies, that the Pacific Ocean is exempt from tempests. So likewise is the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean, particularly from the equator to the latitude of 16 degrees S. A violent gale of wind, for instance, was never known at the little island of St. Helena, which lies at the distance of nearly a thousand miles

miles from the west coast of Africa, and still further from the eastern coast of America. The mean temperature of St. Helena is, I believe, 72 degrees instead of 79, which is the mean temperature of places on the continent, in the same parallels of latitude; but the variations there throughout the year, both of the thermometer and barometer, are very trifling. It must here be again remembered, that the vapours raised from the ocean have a larger portion of both common and electrical fire, and are, therefore, more firmly supported in the form of clouds than those which come from the land; that in these oceans an equal temperature almost constantly prevails, and that all the circumambient air is filled with homogeneous vapours. In every wide expanse of ocean, therefore, unbroken by a continent or extensive island, no sudden changes are likely to take place in the atmosphere; but, on the contrary, where the clouds, which are formed by exhalations from extensive bodies of land, approach those which are derived from the ocean, violent and sudden alterations must necessarily occur; for, as it has been frequently before remarked, the land clouds will attract both common and electrical fire from those clouds which come from the ocean, until the equilibrium is restored; and during this operation such changes must necessarily happen in the atmosphere, as will produce strong

currents of air, and in general whirlwinds. Near every part of the continent of Asia, in the Gulf of Bengal, on either coast of Africa, near the island of Madagascar, and even in the vicinity of the islands of Mauritius and Bourbon, where also there are volcanoes, whirlwinds occasioned by sudden changes in the atmosphere will, at certain seasons, frequently occur. But in the Pacific Ocean, and in the central parts of the North and South Atlantic, they will seldom happen. Ships in crossing the North Atlantic scarcely ever meet with hard gales of wind before they approach the Western Islands, where likewise there are volcanoes. But in the islands of Bermudas, which are situated in the Northern Atlantic Ocean, about the latitude of 32 degrees N. and at the distance of six hundred miles from the coast of America, hurricanes, I believe, are almost unknown; but thunder and lightning, with temporary gusts of wind, or violent squalls, are very common. Were these islands of less extent, or had they been placed within the tropic, it is probable they would have been as exempt, even from tempests, as St. Helena, or the islands in the Pacific Ocean; but situated in the temperate zone, and not very remote from America, they are subject occasionally to sudden and violent gusts from the N.W. which probably originate on that continent. The Bermudas\*, however, enjoy

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"But the reputation of these islands has suffered from the report of the early navigators, who formerly visited them in small vessels, and who were perhaps terrified by the occasional storms of thunder and lightning, and still more by the rocks and shoals with which they are said to be surrounded. The report of one or two timid or wonder-working travellers, at that early period, was probably sufficient to justify the character given of these islands by our immortal Shakespeare, who makes Ariel, in the Tempest, tell Prospero,

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"Mr. Malone, in a note on this passage, says, Thus the islands now known by the name of Bermudas, were frequently, though not always, called in our author's

joy a delightful climate, not unlike the finest weather of an European spring, or the early part of summer, whence, probably, they derive their name of the Summer Islands."—  
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METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,  
APPLICABLE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

"THE tables in the Philosophical Transactions, those of Bishop Watson, Dr. Robertson, and Major Hayman Rooke, all tend to prove, that the rainy season of these islands commences in June, and continues for the two or three subsequent months; and that the greatest quantity of rain falls almost invariably in the month of July. This is the fact: let us consider what use may be derived from it by the farmer.

"In the neighbourhood of London, from the great command of manure and the goodness of the roads, the farmer is able to bring forward his grass, and to mow it sometimes at the beginning of June, and always by the end of the month: thus he completely finishes his hay harvest before the summer solstice; the solstitial rains therefore which follow, but seldom commence before this time, are extremely beneficial to him: they bring forward the aftermath, they swell the corn and increase the length of the straw; and having finished one harvest, the farmer is completely prepared for the other. But it is only within a very few years that agriculture was in such an improved state, even near the capital, as to ad-

mit of an early hay harvest; and I am sorry to say, that nine years in ten at least, in the highly gifted county of Glamorgan, even at the present day, the hay is regularly spoiled in making. But let not this circumstance be considered as reflecting upon the farmers of that country, who are far from deficient either in industry or a competent knowledge of their business. Their country, possessing every possible natural advantage, has not, until lately, had any good turnpike roads; manure was to be had only in small quantities; the little there was, it became difficult and expensive to put on the land, and consequently they could not bring forward their grass to be cut before the middle of July. The rains, therefore, so beneficial to the London farmer, were hurtful to them; but as it happened almost every year, they patiently submitted to what they considered irremediable; for, being situated near the sea, they supposed it the natural consequence of their climate and soil.

"But turnpike roads being now made throughout the country, and safe, expeditious, and cheap conveyances being opened, by means of the canals, from the interior of the country to the sea, and labourers of every description resorting in great numbers to the hills, where they are employed to work the mines of iron, lime, and coal, the produce of the country will in future be consumed on the spot, and necessarily increase the quantity of manure. In the course of a few years then, the valleys at least will come into

author's time. Hackluyt, in his Voyages, 1598, calls 'the sea about the Bermudas a hellish place for thunder, lightning, and storms.' So likewise the continuator of Stowe's Annals, 1615, describing the arrival of the English at these islands in 1609: 'Sir George Somers sitting at the sterne, seeing the ship 'desperate of relief, looking every minute when it would sinke, he espied land, 'which according to his and Captain Newport's opinion shou'd be that dreadful 'coast of the Bermodes, which islands were of all nations, said and supposed to 'be enchanted, and inhabited with witches and devils; which grew by reason of 'accustomed monstrous thunder, storme, and tempest, nere unto those islands; 'also for that the whole coast is so wondrous dangerous of rockes, that few can 'approach them but with unspeakable hazard of shipwreck.'

"The learned editor in this instance proves, that his inimitable author was correct, as far as the information of his day went, in making Ariel speak in the manner he does of these islands; but more modern and authentic accounts, amongst which is that of the learned Bishop Berkley, to whom Pope attributes every virtue under heaven, justifies also, I flatter myself, what has been said of them in this work. If the modern accounts are most deserving of credit, some unhappy invalid may, perhaps, be tempted to seek benefit from a voyage to the Summer Islands, in which some authors say perpetual spring prevails, and where also the inhabitants are strangers to most of our diseases."

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"In the neighbourhood of London, from the great command of manure and the goodness of the roads, the farmer is able to bring forward his grass, and to mow it sometimes at the beginning of June, and always by the end of the month: thus he completely finishes his hay harvest before the summer solstice; the solstitial rains therefore which follow, but seldom commence before this time, are extremely beneficial to him: they bring forward the aftermath, they swell the corn and increase the length of the straw; and having finished one harvest, the farmer is completely prepared for the other. But it is only within a very few years that agriculture was in such an improved state, even near the capital, as to ad-

mit of an early hay harvest; and I am sorry to say, that nine years in ten at least, in the highly gifted county of Glamorgan, even at the present day, the hay is regularly spoiled in making. But let not this circumstance be considered as reflecting upon the farmers of that country, who are far from deficient either in industry or a competent knowledge of their business. Their country, possessing every possible natural advantage, has not, until lately, had any good turnpike roads; manure was to be had only in small quantities; the little there was, it became difficult and expensive to put on the land, and consequently they could not bring forward their grass to be cut before the middle of July. The rains, therefore, so beneficial to the London farmer, were hurtful to them; but as it happened almost every year, they patiently submitted to what they considered irremediable; for, being situated near the sea, they supposed it the natural consequence of their climate and soil.

"But turnpike roads being now made throughout the country, and safe, expeditious, and cheap conveyances being opened, by means of the canals, from the interior of the country to the sea, and labourers of every description resorting in great numbers to the hills, where they are employed to work the mines of iron, lime, and coal, the produce of the country will in future be consumed on the spot, and necessarily increase the quantity of manure. In the course of a few years then, the vallies at least will come into

author's time. Hackluyt, in his Voyages, 1598, calls 'the sea about the Bermudas a hellish place for thunder, lightning, and storms.' So likewise the continuator of Stowe's Annals, 1615, describing the arrival of the English at these islands in 1609: 'Sir George Somers sitting at the stern, seeing the ship 'desperate of relief, looking every minute when it would sinke, he espied land, 'which according to his and Captain Newport's opinion thou'd be that dreadful 'coast of the Bermodes, which islands were of all nations, said and supposed to 'be enchanted, and inhabited with witches and devils; which grew by reason of 'accustomed monstrous thunder, storme, and tempest, neere unto those islands; 'also for that the whole coast is so wondrous dangerous of rockes, that few can 'approach them but with unspeakable hazard of shipwreck.'

"The learned editor in this instance proves, that his inimitable author was correct, as far as the information of his day went, in making Ariel speak in the manner he does of these islands; but more modern and authentic accounts, amongst which is that of the learned Bishop Berkley, to whom Pope attributes every virtue under heaven, justifies also, I flatter myself, what has been said of them in this work. If the modern accounts are most deserving of credit, some unhappy invalid may, perhaps, be tempted to seek benefit from a voyage to the Summer Islands, in which some authors say perpetual spring prevails, and where also the inhabitants are strangers to most of our diseases."

a high

a high state of cultivation, and both the hay and corn harvest in Glamorgan-shire will be as early and productive as those of any other county of Great Britain. The experienced farmer would not thank me for any remarks on the great advantages to be derived from having fodder of a superior quality for his horses, cattle, and sheep.

"As the solstitial rains are always accompanied with westerly and south-westerly winds, the mariner will readily comprehend that this season is unfavourable for ships outward bound to the West Indies and America, and consequently the reverse for those which are homeward bound from those countries.

"It is usual for English travellers to fix the middle of July for their summer excursions, but they must constantly expect to be interrupted with heavy showers of rain. To one class of them however this circumstance may be considered as an advantage: it has lately been the fashion to visit Wales, and amidst its wild romantic scenery, the waterfalls are in the height of their beauty at this season.

"The next meteorological general fact worthy of observation is, that frequent violent gales of wind happen soon after the autumnal equinox. Without dwelling much on the advantages of these high winds, which are known to strip the trees of their leaves, and are said to contribute greatly, by the agitation of them, to the fall of the sap, I shall beg leave to observe, that the little summer of St. Martin, which follows these gales, and is probably the effect of them, continues from the beginning to the 22d of November. This interval of clear weather is particularly useful to the farmer and the gardener; to the former in ploughing and sowing winter and summer fallows, to the latter in pruning and dressing his trees after the fall of the leaf, and when the return of the sap is completed.

"As to the winter, it is well known that little is to be done in the country at this time, except the carrying of manure; but it is important both to the farmer and gardener to remember, that the hard weather seldom begins before Christmas, and in very severe winters a hard frost is generally preceded or accompanied, in the early part of it, by a heavy fall of snow. Thus secured, the wheat and herbage

of every kind is safe from external cold; for snow being a non-conductor of heat, the internal warmth of the earth, which at all seasons is equal at least to forty-eight degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer, rises, and is retained near the surface; and when the thaw takes place, vegetation, having been preserved under this excellent covering of the sheet of snow, is found to be in a very advanced and improved state.

"The mariner at this inclement season will seldom go to sea if he can avoid it; but voyages to the West Indies may be undertaken in the winter, provided there is a good outlet from the Channel by the help of easterly or north-easterly winds. As the spring approaches, the easterly winds commence: the March winds and April showers, says the honest countryman, bring forth May flowers; and it is supposed, that the motion of the trees at the vernal equinox contributes to raise the sap and develop nature, which seems to have been in a state of torpor or necessary repose during the winter. The prudent farmer avails himself of these winds also to sow his oats, barley, peas, beans, potatoes, &c. The drying quality of these winds, on which I have already pretty fully expatiated, takes from the earth what would otherwise be a superabundant degree of moisture on the surface of it.

"At this season, likewise, the British mariner becomes particularly active. He may undertake his voyages to all countries situated to the southward of these islands; and if bound to the East Indies in particular, he may perform the voyage almost to a certainty in less than four months. The N.E. winds being favourable for ships outward bound, they are of course adverse to those that are homeward bound; therefore it would be prudent to postpone, if possible, entrance into the Channel to the end of May, or the beginning of June.

"In short, the spring is the most favourable season for outward bound ships, and the summer for those returning home. In the autumn the winds generally incline to the W. but rather towards the N. than the S.; and in winter they are often from the N. E. but the heavier gales of wind almost always come from the N. W.

"After having pointed out to the farmer and gardener, the mariner and the

the traveller, the winds which prevail at different seasons of the year, and which, in examining several meteorological registers kept in Great Britain for upwards of fifty years, I have found to be almost as periodical as those in the tropics, I shall proceed to a farther application of this hypothesis to domestic purposes.

"It appears that in these islands the W. and S. W. winds prevail three fourths of the year, and E. and N. E. only one fourth. In all parts of Great Britain the S. W. is esteemed the most rainy point of the compass.

"In building houses, granaries, or storehouses of any kind, therefore, in all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, great care should be taken not to place buildings to the E. or N. E. of any lake or standing pool of water, but particularly of marshes or fens; and where a choice is permitted, it would perhaps be prudent to erect our habitations to the W. and S. W. of every river and canal; for, if situated to the eastward of them, according to this hypothesis, the wind will blow upon the buildings three fourths of the year, bringing with it the additional moisture of the river or canal, and consequently will render it damp and unwholesome; whereas if placed westward of these sources of moisture, the air from the eastward, which is rather too dry, in passing over large bodies of water, will absorb a certain quantity of the moisture in solution in the atmosphere, and the dampness of it of course will be by these means in some degree diminished: but at all events, as the wind blows from the eastward three months of the year only, a house thus situated will be less damp than one placed to the westward, exactly in proportion to the difference of time each different wind blows, that is, as three to nine; and for this reason every person should recollect that the W. and S. W. sides of a house are always the most damp.

"It seems needless to expatiate on the necessity of applying these observations in particular to situations near marshes or fens. The fatal consequences of the exhalations from these places are very well known, and therefore I shall content myself with having pointed out to those, who are unavoidably obliged to live near them, the most effectual means of partly avoiding their effects. If any persons can for a mo-

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ment entertain a doubt of their baneful influence, I must beg leave to refer them to the first book of the classical and elegant poem on health by the learned and ingenious Dr. Armstrong, whose salutary advice I shall not attempt to disguise in the same language of prose; nor would I wish, by a partial quotation, to deprive the reader of the pleasure of gratifying himself by a general reference to the original.

"Although our atmosphere in particular places is impregnated with noxious vapours, fortunately for the inhabitants of these islands they are not subject to the baneful influence of poisonous winds; nor can they scarcely consider themselves exposed to the ravages of hurricanes. The tempests, which sometimes are known in our temperate climate, can scarcely be deemed more than storms, especially when compared with those in the tropics." P. 145.

LXX. *A Practical Essay on the Art of recovering suspended Animation; together with a Review of the most effectual Means to be adopted in Cases of imminent Danger. Translated from the German of CHRISTIAN AUGUSTUS STRUVE, M.D. &c. 12mo. pp. 210. 3s. 6d. Murray and Highley.*

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#### EXTRACTS.

##### OBSERVATIONS ON HUMANE INSTITUTIONS.

"THERE is no branch of medicine, of which its professors have greater reason to be proud, than the art of restoring to life persons apparently dead;

an art with which our predecessors in medical science, for want of anatomical knowledge, were not sufficiently acquainted; but which, in the present age, is progressively advancing towards perfection. No stronger argument can be opposed to the sophistical assertions of Temple\*, Rousseau, and subsequent writers, than the modern history of resuscitation. Indeed, no scientific researches have greater claims to public gratitude, and none deserve to be held in greater estimation, than those which relate to the recovery of persons apparently dead; from whatever cause this suspension of vital powers may have taken place.

"The ancients, who duly acknowledged the great merit of their physicians, revered them, according to the ideas peculiar to their age, as demigods. Such were their Heracles, Asclepiades, Empedocles, who enjoyed divine honours, and owed much of their celebrity to the successful restoration of those who were apparently consigned to the grave. When we examine the pages of the history of medicine, we find among the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, many accounts of successful attempts at resuscitation, and of the respectful attention bestowed on the preservation of human life; but there are no records of public institutions for that benevolent purpose.

"In the middle ages, when medicine, as well as all the other sciences, were totally neglected, this important object was likewise entirely abandoned.

"In the seventeenth century, however, the attention of the public was again directed to this philanthropic aim, and there appeared several works on the subject. Among these are the productions of Kirchmayer†, and a few others, that display the character of the age in which they were written, namely, a strong desire of perpetuating superstition, and recording marvellous

events. Yet, notwithstanding many useful hints contained in these works, they neither excited general attention, nor engaged the notice of the rulers of the country.

"The present century claims the merit of having more fully discussed the subject; a circumstance which, though it cannot be considered as a consequence of the more refined moral feelings for the value of human life (for the contrary is too strongly proved by sanguinary wars), may, nevertheless, be ascribed to the great improvement which has been made of late years in the art of healing.

"Induced by the example of her scientific neighbours, the attention of Germany was called to the important object of applying medicine to the improvement of the resuscitative art. For, though some German writers had published their sentiments on this subject, yet they only produced a slight impression upon the minds of their countrymen. Nor did the famous story of the goldsmith's wife at Dresden‡ strike them with awe. Winflow and Brubier, indeed, had previously written on this subject in France; but many years elapsed before their publications were translated and read in Germany. They, however, produced several German pamphlets on the treatment of the apparently dead, some of which are not destitute of merit §.

"At length, Professor Hufeland excited the attention of the public, by his excellent work 'On the Uncertainty of the Symptoms of Death, and on the only infallible Means of preventing Persons from being consigned to an untimely Grave;' printed at Weimar, in the year 1791.

"As the uncertainty of relying upon the signs of apparent death was thus more generally acknowledged, institutions were progressively effected for the recovery of drowned persons, or others

\* "Les Œuvres mêlées du Chevalier Temple, t. i. pp. 246. Utrecht, 1693."

† "Dissertatio de Hom. apparent. Mort. Wittemb. 1651.—Henr. Kornmann, de Mortis Miraculis."

‡ "Nachricht von der aus ihrem Grabe wieder auferstandenen Goldschmieds Frau in Dresden; nebst Erinnerung von der unerkannten Sünde, die Leute zu begraben, ehe sie noch gestorben:—or, An Account of the Goldsmith's Wife at Dresden, who rose alive from her Grave; together with an Exposition of the secret Crime of burying People previous to their Death, by M. Paul Christ, Hilscher, Dresden, 1773."

§ "Das große Unglück einer zu frühen Beerdigung.—On the great Misfortune of premature Interment, by C. F. Struve, Physician at Neustadt, 1785."

whose



whose lives were endangered by similar accidents.

"In the year 1767, a society for the recovery of drowned persons was established at Amsterdam: they published rules for proceeding in such cases, and offered premiums to those who were successful in the application of these rules. One of their most active members, John Abraham Willink, procured a translation of the history and transactions of this society, in the German language. On the very day of its foundation, the society had the satisfaction to see the first person on whom their method was tried, rescued from aquatic suffocation; and, in the same year, two other cases, equally successful, occurred at Amsterdam.

"In most of the Dutch towns, similar philanthropic institutions were formed. Indeed it appears from a list published in Holland, that by means of these establishments the following number of persons, who must otherwise have perished, were restored to their friends and society:

In the year 1767	3 persons
1768	24 do.
1769	44 do.
1770	35 do.
1771	34 do.

In the year 1772 34 persons

1773 35 do.

1774 41 do.

1775 37 do.

Total 287 persons.

"The premiums were accordingly paid; but besides these, many were recovered for whose preservation no premiums had been offered: among those were three from a state of suffocation, and one from strangulation, restored to life by the same process as is adopted with those who are drowned. According to later registers of this society, from its foundation to the year 1793, during twenty-five years, 990 persons have, by its patriotic exertions, been restored to the community.

"There likewise were published at Venice, in the year 1768, Directions for the Resuscitation of the Drowned, and premiums promised to those who applied them with success. Similar institutions were established in several other parts of Italy, especially at Milan, and throughout Lombardy: while the transactions of the Dutch society were translated into the Russian language, by the Imperial Academy at Peterburg." P. 1.

(To be concluded in our next.)

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